

Newsmagazine for Northern California's Gay Community and Its Friends

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ISSUE

the latest

volume six
issue four

RAINBOW FESTIVAL '94!

SACRAMENTO THROWS ITSELF A PARTY! PAGE 9



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RAINBOW FESTIVAL



RAINBOW FESTIVAL 94

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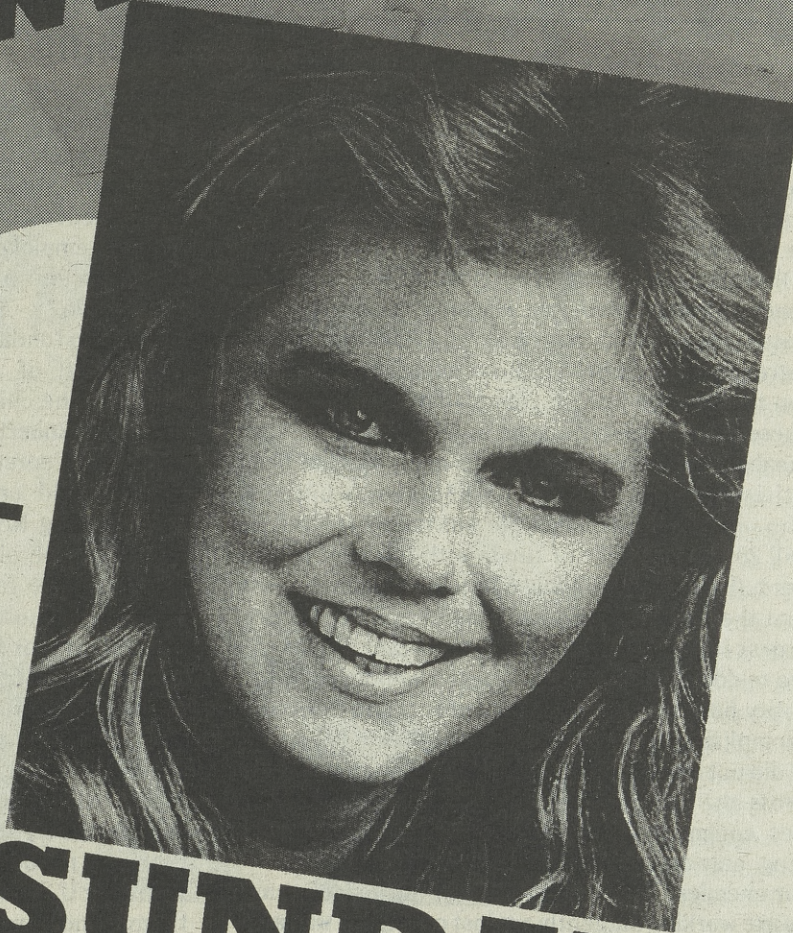
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Really I Must Say!

Learning From The Enemy

by Michael R. Gorman

There are many times in a writer's life when seemingly unrelated events and ideas suddenly converge and create something new. I have had such a convergence lately. The pieces that came together? Let's see, there was the decision of the U.S. Congress to withhold funding from any public school district that promotes or encourages homosexuality as a normal way of life. Then there's the friend who complained about the Lambda Community Center. Oh, and the criticism of Stonewall 25 as just a big party that cost money better spent elsewhere. The surprise and lack of coordinated response among gays and lesbians to the homophobic congressional decision. The continuing attacks of the Christian right on the gay and lesbian community.

And how did these varied elements come together? The catalyst was a lively political discussion with a friend of mine who has been a Sacramento activist for years and who is opening a new business downtown but who will remain nameless. He was telling me that he thought Stonewall 25 was a misuse of funds with too little return on the money spent. (He's even sounding like a businessman these days!) I argued that the visibility Stonewall gave us and our history, and the togetherness it created were vitally important results. As we argued toward middle ground, we both began wondering if the self-esteem, identity building and visibility encouraged by Stonewall could be accomplished in a way that did not preclude greater political gain and did not leave out the men and women who couldn't afford to fly across the country (such as the way The Rainbow Festival combines community celebration, issue education and serious fundraising, only on a more consistent, ongoing basis).

What about our enemies? Is it true as some of our leaders have claimed that they are working diligently against our rights while we party away our resources? Excuse me. I lived in the conservative churches in my closet days. Trust me. The good Christians are not all sitting around in political strategy meetings every week. Every kitchen queen in the country would have to give a dinner party a week for the rest of his life for us to come close to matching the number of potlucks offered in the fundamentalist churches. Add to that, the concerts, picnics, camping trips, bowling leagues, swim parties, youth group activities, old folks activities, singles activities, couples activities, sports, quilting bees, aerobics classes and on and on. These people party more than anyone I know. (Which is not to say the quality of their parties compares to even the worst of gay parties. But on quantity, they have us beat by a bushel of mustard seeds.)

The incredible strength of the fundamentalist churches lies in their attention to community building. They meet every week, sometimes several times a week to build cohesion and identity. They teach (or rather indoctrinate). They collect money. They recreate. And they build meeting places to accommodate all of this. It is because they fill people's need for community and belonging that they can so easily coordinate politically. Their political activity is not the primary use of their time, but it is built upon a continuing foundation of regular coming together.

This strength of the churches was not always used in such inhumane, destructive ways as it is so often used today. The church served as a touchstone in the Black civil rights movement of the 50's and 60's. It provided ready meeting places, member rosters, financial support, and group cohesion. What do we have in the Gay and Lesbian community to rival that? The bars? The corner of Castro and Market? Greenwich Village? The monthly calendar in *the latest ISSUE*? The NGLTF newsletter? A national rally once a year? Not enough! Not enough!

What could we have? Forget for a moment the bitch du jour about the Lambda Community Center and visualize with me. Visualize a group of gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender folks that decided to build itself a community center healthy enough to meet its needs, a place where the people could meet, have parties, teach classes, comfort their sick, guide their young, plan dances,

continued on page 18

Evil Triumphs When Gays Do Nothing

Editor,

The Senate Labor and Human Relations Committee began hearings on July 19th on SB 2238, a federal bill designed "to prohibit employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation."

Christian fundamentalists are against it, of course. Jay Sekulow, the chief legal counsel for Pat Robertson's so-called American Center for Law and Justice, said on the Trinity Broadcasting Network on July 18th that the bill is "a direct attack on the family, and the church, and those of us who are standing up for liberty."

The well-organized fundamentalist Christians will be contacting their U.S. Senators to oppose the bill. If this anti-discrimination legislation sounds like a good idea to you, then you need to get in touch with your U.S. Senators and tell them. And if you have been a victim of this kind of discrimination, include your story in your letter.

Remember, as local American Family Association leader David Woodel is fond of saying, evil triumphs when good men do nothing. Gays and lesbians will continue to be isolated, stigmatized and persecuted if you remain silent. You now have an opportunity to do something about it.

To write to Senator Barbara Boxer: 112 Hart Building, Washington DC 20510 - (202) 224-3553. To write to Senator Dianne Feinstein: 331 Hart Building, Washington DC 20510 - (202) 224-3841.

Sincerely,
Ellen Turner

Hurting Kids with Ignorance

Editor,

As a volunteer member of the Lesbian/Gay Speakers Bureau run by Community United Against Violence, I visit middle-school and high school classes to talk about what it's like to be a gay man. As required by CUAV's contract with the San Francisco Unified School District, I start with a few dis-

claimers, including the assurance that my lesbian co-speaker and I are not there to tell anyone to "become" a homosexual (which, I add, would be impossible--sexual orientation can't be taught). I then spend the rest of the class answering questions.

I don't blame the students for the sometimes ignorant or misinformed views they express--they may not yet know better. But knowing better will certainly be to their advantage. They'll be better prepared to relate socially to gay classmates, teammates, co-workers, and family members. At stake is their ability to function and excel as adults in a diverse and multicultural world.

Every class is likely to include students who are lesbian, gay or bisexual (or who have a lesbian/gay or bisexual family member), and who may be afraid to tell anyone. These kids often feel alienated, and helpless to challenge the hostility or ignorance their classmates may express regarding gays (I remember the feeling well). They are less prone to excel in school, are more prone to consider suicide, and are at higher risk for substance abuse and unsafe sexual behavior. And teenage males with acutely conflicted feelings about homosexuality are disproportionately likely to physically attack those they perceive to be homosexual or bisexual. I believe the presentation is vitally important for the welfare of these students.

At the end of each class, the students fill out a brief questionnaire on their attitude toward the presentation. Did they learn anything? Did they find it helpful? Do they think it would benefit others their age? Most of the answers--even the answers of the students who affected disinterest throughout the presentation--are very encouraging.

I don't know what the U.S. Senate was thinking when it voted Monday to cut federal funds to school districts that have programs like this one--they're only hurting the kids. I urge lesbian, gay and bisexual people to find the energy and stamina to put this issue at the forefront of our many civil rights battles. And I urge my straight fellow citizens to protest this abuse of their tax dol-

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issue

PUBLISHER

Kate Moore

BUSINESS

Sara Myers

OFFICE MANAGER

Lori Friedli

EDITOR

Chris Narloch

Michael Gorman

LAYOUT & DESIGN

Kate Moore

Bill Peterson

COVER DESIGN

Andy Markley - Art 101

ADVERTISING SALES

Kevin Cohee

COPY EDITORS

Patricia DiGiorgio

Lu McCabe

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Brian Ashby

Rick Gerharter

Rink

Judi Parks

WRITERS

David Borad

Steve Bistransky

Stan Carlsen

Martin Casey

P.J. Dunker

Michael Gorman

C. Lichtenstein

Bruce Mirken

Chris Narloch

Bill Peterson

Richard Shumate

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Around the Nation

Helms' Hatred Targets Gay Youth

by Michael R. Gorman

On Monday August 1, Jesse Helms struck a blow to the heart of the gay, lesbian and bisexual community's struggle to save youngsters from the pain and isolation of growing up gay in a homophobic world. It was a move that some national leaders claim will, if sustained, assure the deaths of many gay and lesbian teens.

Together with Senator Bob Smith (R-NH), Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC) introduced an amendment to the Elementary

ing 63-36 vote. The House had already passed a similar amendment.

The executive director of the

National leaders are urging gays to flood their representatives with calls against the Helms amendment . . .

And Secondary Education Act that would withhold all federal education funds from any school districts that "carry out a program or activity that has either the purpose or effect of encouraging or supporting homosexuality as a positive lifestyle alternative."

The Senate passed the amendment with an overwhelm-

National Gay and Lesbian Task Force said, "The Smith/Helms amendment, if signed into law, will have direct and disastrous impact on gay, lesbian and bisexual youth. Studies indicate that gay youth are more likely to attempt suicide because of the societal prejudice and hatred exemplified by Senators Smith and Helms."



Jesse Helms.

The amendment disallows all "counseling or other services on school grounds that affirm the homosexual lifestyle." School personnel will also be forbidden to make any "referral of a pupil to an organization that affirms a homosexual lifestyle." Under the Helms amendment, programs like Project 10, GLAAD's Project 21, and The Harvey Milk School will be in jeopardy.

Libraries will not be allowed to carry any gay-positive books, such as "Heather Has Two Mommies" and "Daddy's Roommate." Hundreds of thousands of titles will be forbidden. Such broad-based programs as Health Education, school health clinics, HIV prevention, instructional materials appropriation and history and science curriculum will be severely re-

stricted.

Senator Edward M. Kennedy (D-MASS) attempted to dilute the impact of the amendment by introducing a measure that would cut federal money to schools that encourage sexual activity, either homosexual or heterosexual, and only if the money were used directly for that purpose. He intended the measure to supersede the Helms amendment, but Helms managed to use Senate rules to block the passage of the Kennedy change as a "secondary degree amendment." It passed 99-0 as a separate measure competing with but not superseding the Helms amendment.

"This legislation is nothing less than a death sentence for gay youth," said Al Kielwasser of Project 21, a program for educational equity.

"The question now is whether Bill Clinton will veto this hateful

continued on page 18

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National Newsbits

Please Call Your Representatives

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) is calling on our community to take aggressive action in the month of August before and during the summer recess of Congress to advocate for health care reform and passage of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), two issues that dramatically impact the lives of lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals. Constituents must also demand that their Senators stand

up and oppose Sen. Jesse Helms' campaign of political gay bashing.

NGLTF has produced an August Congressional Action Kit that will offer information on ENDA, health care reform proposals, and a listing of Senators' votes on recent anti-gay amendments offered by Sen. Helms. The Action Kit will guide people through the process of calling legislators immediately and meeting with legislators' district offices during the August recess. The kit will include methods to communicate messages effectively and influence votes on gay-related issues.

"While we have made substantial progress in Congress this year," said Radecic, "we must convince our elected officials in Washington that there

will be a political price to pay at the ballot box if they do not support simple non-discrimination measures and support blatantly homophobic amendments by Jesse Helms."

To receive the August Congressional Action Kit or to receive more information on these two vital issues affecting gay men, lesbians, and bisexuals, call (202) 332-6483, ext. 3327.

Heart of the West Fest for Lesbians

Combine the best of a womyn's music festival with the sizzle of Las Vegas.

PLUS (People Like Us) Productions is excited to announce the first annual Heart of the West Fest on November 4, 5 and 6.

The Heart of the West Fest will include crafts, workshops, dance competition and spectacular performers every night at the luxurious Hacienda Hotel and Casino on the Las Vegas strip for a unique and glamorous "landcruise" women's weekend.

Heart of the West Fest kicks off at noon on Friday, November 4 and ends Sunday evening. Friday evening begins with Lucie Blue Tremblay, then onto hilarious comedy with JoAnn Loulan, Karen Williams and Dos Fallopia. Dance away to DJ sounds in the Cactus Cabaret with the talents of Sue Fink, Ubaka, The Rhythm Method, and Lisa Koch.

For further information and to charge your reservations, call 1-800-GET-PLUS.

Lesbian Attacked

Northampton, Massachusetts -- dubbed "Lesbianville U.S.A." by the media in a giddy avalanche of publicity last year-- has been rocked by a brutal lesbian bashing, leaving some in the community questioning whether the town's high profile is an asset or a liability.

The woman, who has requested anonymity, suffered several injuries requiring surgery.

According to police, the woman was walking on Strong Avenue after leaving the Bay State Hotel bar at 1:15 a.m. when she was struck by a white car, described as a new-model, two-door Ford Vista or Escort. The force of the impact threw the victim to the ground. Although injured, she was able to get to her knees, which allowed her to get a good look at the car's occupants, whom she described as two white women and two black or Hispanic men. According to the victim's statement to police, one of the occupants shouted "dyke" at her just before the car backed up and drove at her again, striking her head, breaking her jaw and shattering several teeth.

According to the report, the attackers laughed as they drove away from the scene and threatened to return. Police believe that the culprits came from out of town.

One woman who asked not to be named said the media spotlight that picked Northampton out as a "lesbian town" had actually served to lure gay bashers. "These guys see Northampton

as a hunting ground now," she said. "It's like shining a light so all the homophobes out there know where to find us."

Following a segment on ABC's 20/20 in late 1992 that focused on Northampton as a haven for lesbians, a torrent of "lesbian paradise in the Berkshires" articles appeared in the media. The National Enquirer dubbed Northampton "Lesbianville U.S.A." Newsweek featured the town in its lesbian cover story, and several national gay magazines ran profiles of the burgeoning dyke community.

Elizabeth Taylor Cancels Benefit

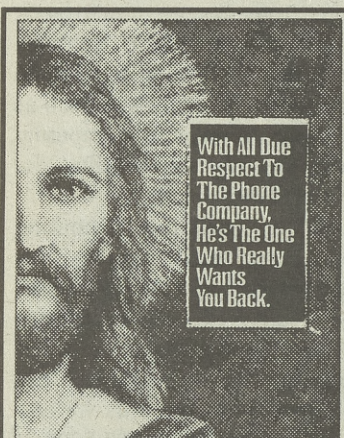
Los Angeles--Elizabeth Taylor canceled an AIDS foundation benefit dinner because the full price of some tickets would not go directly to the charity.

The benefit was to be held in Dodger Stadium July 16 after the "Encore: The Three Tenors" concert featuring opera stars Luciano Pavarotti, Plácido Domingo and Jose Carreras.

The Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation had arranged to obtain 1,000 tickets to the concert to be sold along with tickets to the dinner as a package, said Joseph Panetta, spokesman for Miss Taylor.

"I had assumed that all amounts generously pledged for the dinner would go to ETAF. I did not realize that the \$1,000 face value of each concert ticket would not reach ETAF," Taylor said in a statement.

She also noted that the *continued on page 18*



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California's Domestic Partners Bill Progresses

Assembly Bill 2810, the statewide domestic partners registration bill, passed another legislative hurdle on Monday, August 8, when it "got twenty-eight-point-eight out of the Senate Appropriations Committee," according to Keith Johnson of the LIFE AIDS Lobby. (Senate rule 28.8 says that any bill with no fiscal impact does not have to be voted on by the Appropriations Committee.)

At press time the bill by Assemblyman Katz was on its way to the Senate floor with a vote on Thursday August 11 at the

earliest. From there it will go to a committee to be reconciled with the Assembly version due to a few technical amendments it picked up in the Senate.

Once the bill passes, and predictions are that it will, it goes to Governor Wilson for his signature.

The new state law will be similar to the Sacramento city domestic partners ordinance. It will provide for hospital visitation rights, inheritance privileges on the standard form will and legal guardianship of an incapacitated domestic partner. It will also make partners re-

sponsible for each other's financial obligations. For that reason, legislative consultant Ken Topper says, "Small businesses that don't support this legislation are crazy. It provides a recourse for debt collection."

Johnson points out that the bill will benefit senior citizens and unmarried heterosexual couples as well as gays, lesbians and bisexuals. He encourages supporters of the bill to write to the governor or call his office at (916) 445-2841 to urge his signature.

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Olympic Volleyball Spiked in Cobb County

by Richard Shumate

Bowing to angry protests by supporters of gay and lesbian equality, the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games has pulled its 1996 volleyball competition from a suburban county that officially condemned the "gay lifestyle."

On July 29, ACOG said it would move the games from the Cobb Galleria Centre in Cobb County to the University of Georgia Coliseum in Athens. In celebration of the victory, a crowd of about 200 gathered for an impromptu street party in Midtown, the heart of Atlanta's gay community.

"It was a big win," said Jon-Ivan Weaver, co-chair of the Olympics Out-of-Cobb Coalition, which has been fighting to move the volleyball venue since January. "We took on the big guys and showed them bigotry doesn't pay."

A year ago, the Cobb County Commission, spurred on by the victory of domestic partnership legislation in the city of Atlanta and complaints about a play staged in Cobb that mentioned gays, passed a resolution officially condemning the gay lifestyle as incompatible with its community standards. The commission also yanked all county funding for the arts.

Cobb, a county of 400,000 adjacent to the city's northwest side, is metro Atlanta's second largest suburban county, and the resolution sent shockwaves through Atlanta's gay/lesbian community. In January, when

Weaver discovered that ACOG planned to stage preliminary volleyball matches in Cobb, he began to organize a broad-based community campaign against the selection site -- a campaign

"We took on the big guys and showed them bigotry doesn't pay."

that grew to include such disparate groups as NOW, ACT UP, the Rainbow Coalition, the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, GLAAD and the Lesbian Avengers.

The effort was eventually endorsed by at least six members of Congress and Olympic gold medalists Greg Louganis, Bruce Hayes and Cathy Turner. Pat Hussain, the other co-chair of the coalition, thinks the statements from those Olympic heroes were an important factor in the coalition's victory.

"Here were the athletes -- the people the Olympics hold

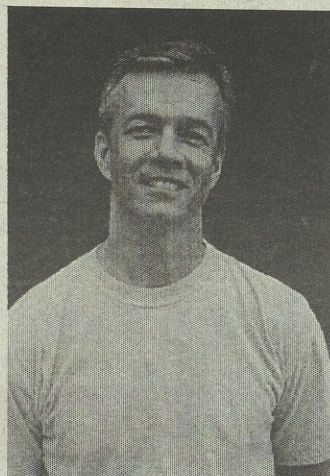
dear -- saying move it," Hussain said.

At first, ACOG officials and even some people within the city's gay/lesbian community didn't take the effort seriously. As late as March, ACOG insisted volleyball couldn't be moved from Cobb because there was no suitable alternative venue.

However, pressure built as the Olympics Out-of-Cobb Coalition began a letter writing campaign to members of the International Olympic Committee and plans for a massive demonstration during the 1996 Olympics were kicked off at Stonewall 25. GLAAD chapters in New York, Chicago and Atlanta began a campaign to pressure Olympic sponsors, particularly Atlanta-based Coca-Cola.

"ACOG felt no one would pay attention to this and it would die down as an issue," said Carl Lange, executive director of GLAAD/Atlanta. "This victory demonstrates that homophobic attacks such as these will not go unchallenged."

As the controversy dragged on, image-conscious ACOG officials said they hoped the commissioners and opponents of Olympic volleyball in Cobb could



Richard Shumate

Jon-Ivan Weaver, co-chair of the Olympics Out of Cobb Coalition.

come to a negotiated settlement, even as they began looking at other venues. But commissioners steadfastly refused to rescind the resolution, which the coalition insisted was not negotiable. The final straw came just days before ACOG announced its decision when Bill Byrne, chairman of the Cobb County Commission, told ACOG that unless it made a final decision quickly, the county would preempt ACOG and withdraw use of the Galleria Centre.

"Recent events in Cobb County have made it clear that the resolution we had hoped for will not be forthcoming,"

said Billy Payne, president of ACOG, in a prepared statement. "It is unfortunate that the dialogue we have encouraged over the past several months did not produce positive results."

"The bottom line is that we have found an alternative which will allow us to fully meet our objective of putting on the best Olympic Games in history," he said.

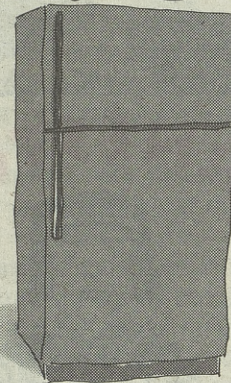
For Hussain, one lesson from this victory that can be taken to other fights is that persistence pays off, even in the face of incredible odds.

"I think sometimes we don't fight if we don't think we can win," said Hussain. "You don't know if it's winnable unless you engage."

But so far, the ultimate goal -- having the Cobb resolution rescinded -- has not been achieved. Cobb commissioners displayed their intractability on the issue by choosing to let the Olympics leave the county rather than backing down.

"I was elated at ACOG's decision and saddened at the same time," said Lange. "I think ACOG did the right thing, but I'm saddened that the resolution was not rescinded. That resolution still exists."

"Oink! Oink!"



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LETTERS

continued from page 4

lars, their children, and the principles of their constitution.

Sincerely,
Ben Carlson

Thank You, Sit Down

Editor,

(This letter is a response to Mr. Falcon Lee's letter in the mid-July ISSUE regarding the

Lambda Fair's entrance fee.)

Thank you very much for your constructive comments on communication with our Future Fund and Friends of the Center donors and thank you for your consistent contributions. All donors should be personally recognized and thanked in an appropriate way.

In terms of the entrance donation we requested at the Freedom Fair your input is valuable. As you may realize the Lambda Center pays for every bit of entertainment, city and state

licenses and fees, sound and other equipment used at the fair and most advertising. The expenses this year presently approaches \$18,000 and bills are still coming in. It looks as if we may have broken even this year.

As Sacramento's major event and the largest lesbian gay, bisexual and transgender event of the year we choose not to compromise on the quality of the event but to find alternatives to helping us make it the best for you, our community

and our donors.

The Lambda Center has also relied on income from the Freedom Fair to help offset costs of our overhead and monthly expenses not covered by grants or donations.

Prior to making the decision to request a donation, our volunteer coordinating committee asked some members of the community their thoughts and the response was very positive.

I agree that our staff's response to you could have been more professional and appropriate. I apologize for that and will have scheduled a staff meeting to address such things. As for you and I not connecting by phone, I did make two attempts without successfully reaching you or an answering machine.

I invite you to attend any of our board meetings to become familiar with the details of running the Center and look forward to your input on improving our services or possibly volunteering to help us send the appropriate personal "thank you" to our donors and volun-

teers. I do admit this is an area that has been neglected up until now.

Thank you for continuing to be a committed Future Fund donor and I look forward to seeing you at a board meeting in the near future. They are held the third Wednesday of the month but please confirm the date.

Sincerely,

Joanna Cassese

Executive Director Lambda Community Center

Uniform Ball Big Success

Editor,

The Phoenix Uniform Club would like to thank everyone who attended our Uniform & Leather Ball on June 18th. Because of their patronage, we were able to stage a high-class event with buffet, open bar and the music of Gail Wilson and City Swing and raise over \$2,500.00 for the AIDS Emergency Fund. We are proud to say that this donation was an increase of 25% over last year.

We would also like to thank all of the volunteers who donated their valuable time and services, thereby allowing us to spend less money and give more money to our charity of choice. We are now beginning to plan for next year and hope that everyone marks their calendars to attend the 1995 Uniform & Leather Ball scheduled for the night before the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade. The Phoenix Uniform Club San Francisco, CA

Burger King Bigotry

Editor,

David Woodel, a local self-proclaimed god, judge and jury of people's morals, has convinced 16 Sacramento area Burger King franchise owners to remove the *Sacramento News and Review* from their news stands. This was based on 100 calls to Mr. Woodel protesting the gay and lesbian personal ads in the *News and Review*.

All true Americans, who believe in our Bill of Rights, freedom of speech, equal rights for all people and who disdain fascist censorship, should boycott Burger King restaurants. And, call Burger King's corporate customer relations office (1-800-WES-1800) and tell them what you think of such un-American censorship and gay-bashing.

John D. Helm

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Front Page Feature

It's Rainbow Festival Time in River City

by Michael R. Gorman

It started in the back parking lot of Faces dance club in 1986. Today it requires roadblocks to divert traffic from the area while the festival spreads down the streets.

It's one part politics, one part education, one part charity and one part party. It's the annual Sacramento Rainbow Festival, a celebration of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender community.

According to organizers, the number of booth reservations already received by the committee indicates that this year's festival will be the largest ever. As always, the money raised by the festival will go toward charity programs chosen by the festival committee. Because most of the money raised in booth rental goes toward expenses, the greatest boon for the charities will be the shows presented during the festival week.

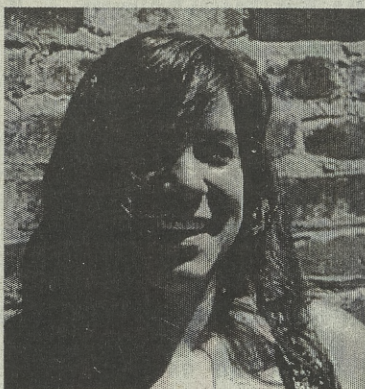
According to Richard Boriolo, the originator of the festival and one of this year's organizers, "We raise a lot of money because of Terry Sidie and his generosity, because Terry lets us use his facility for five days in a row to put on as many shows as we can. The money from the festival pays the expenses. The cover charge on those five days goes directly to the charities, every penny. Sometimes Terry just picks up other expenses too, so more goes to charity."

The first beneficiary of the Rainbow Festival money in 1987 was the newly opened Hope House, a hospice for people with AIDS run by Loaves and Fishes. "Most of us hadn't heard of it," said Boriolo. "Then one day in the paper we saw a picture of Mayor Anne Rudin rolling paint at some house that was going to

be used for people with AIDS."

This year for the first time Hope House will not be one of the festival's beneficiaries. Asked why, one of the organizers pointed to the uncertainty earlier this year about the fate of Hope House as a hospice. Loaves and Fishes had removed all of the residents from the top two floors, and the county questioned the house's lack of licensing as a hospice.

When contacted by *the latest ISSUE*, Jane McKirchy, director of Hope House, explained that the first floor of the house



Comedian Shann Carr performs on Thursday.

will remain active as an "end stage" hospice, meaning a place for those PWA's who are no longer ambulatory. There will be six beds. The government has agreed to let the hospice work under the licenses of those who provide the care, including UC Davis Medical Center. The upper floors will house Jesuits working with Loaves and Fishes.

There is another reason the Hope House will not benefit from Rainbow festival funds this



Organizers of this year's Rainbow Festival are David Mansch, Jo Tierney, Jerry Sloan, Richard Boriolo, Carla Leek, and Sharon Marques. Not shown is Terry Sidie, Kevin Cohee and Jon Williams.

year. Organizers called it a simple matter of mathematics. According to community sources that investigated the matter, Loaves and Fishes' 1992 "990 Form" filed with the IRS and the Attorney General's office lists the yearly budget of the Hope House as approximately \$60,000. It also states that about \$35,000 of that sum is raised through "rent donations" paid by the residents themselves: \$250 a month per resident. The remaining \$25,000 or so is far less than what is raised each year in donations to the house, according to those sources.

Asked where the money raised for Hope House goes, McKirchy said, "Loaves and Fishes holds onto our budget and each program submits its own budget." Investigators say that the money raised for Hope House all goes into the Loaves and Fishes general fund, and anything over the Hope House budget stays in the general fund. According to the 990 forms, Loaves and Fishes had about a half a million dollars in the bank in 1992. Interest was a major source of income.

Boriolo told *the latest ISSUE* that the committee for the Rainbow Festival chooses its beneficiaries based on impact in the gay and lesbian community and on financial need. The Hope House, in the opinion of the committee, no longer meets those criteria. He was quick to point out that no one on the committee disparaged the important work of Loaves and Fishes.

This year's Rainbow Festival beneficiaries are the Health

Education Awareness for Lesbians program of the Lambda Community Center, a support and education program focused on lesbian health issues including breast cancer; the LIFE AIDS Lobby, which lobbies the state government on AIDS issues and gay civil rights issues; Project Tocsin an organization formed by Jerry Sloan and Marghe Covino to track the homophobic dealings of the religious right; and the Positive Gourmet, Tom Vasquez's meal program for people with AIDS.

Of the beneficiaries, Boriolo said, "It's about time we started focusing on lesbian health issues too. Project Tocsin is so important right now. We need to know what the enemy is doing. I have a lot of admiration for Laurie McBride and her crew at LIFE. I think they do a lot with very little. And Tom, (Positive Gourmet) we're going to give Tom money to buy groceries."

Covered with dust and working on a tile floor at the space on J Street which will soon house Hamburger Mary's, a restaurant in which Boriolo is a partner, he spoke of the past beneficiaries of the Rainbow Festival money. "Most people in the programs we've helped fund don't realize that the money comes from the Rainbow Festival. But every once in a while you hear from them. We've had people come to the festival in wheelchairs and grab individual organizers and thank them for their support of Hope House. Those moments are a little bit of a shock; they make it all so real."

Joanna Cassese, executive

director of the Lambda Center, said, "With the funds from the Rainbow Festival we've been able to pay for programs not otherwise funded with grants, things that have touched so many lives: Being Alive Living Room, H.E.A.L., Youth Programs, socials, parts of the AIDS Response Program."

Ron Rosenblatt, who runs the Being Alive Living Room program that began with Rainbow Festival funds, said of the social program for people with AIDS, "I've seen people who would just be shut-ins come out and blossom instead of being recluses. A couple of guys don't come anymore because they got the courage to go back to work."

"It's open. It's there. It's taken its toll on me. It's hard thinking about all those who were a part of the group who are no longer here. But it's because of them that I stay with it. It meant something to them. Someone to talk to. A cure for the boredom, a chance to go to movies or a circus or other little luxuries they can't afford on SSI."

The committee members of the Rainbow Festival know that the impact the festival has on such programs also goes beyond the money. The publicity afforded worthy causes is also a major consideration in choosing which groups to fund.

For the community as a whole, the festival goes beyond just a charity fundraiser.

"The Rainbow Festival is also a celebration of the positive side of our lifestyle. It brings the community together to celebrate our pride. And with the booths it also gives the commu-

continued on page 18

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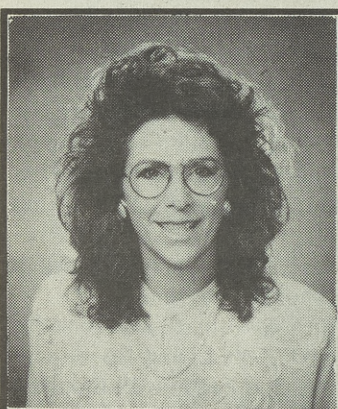
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Sacramento

Ice Show Raises Thousands for CARES

by Stan Carlsen

A bit of Las Vegas was transported to Sacramento on July 30, as Iceland Arena on Del Paso Blvd. hosted "Ice Fantastic," an ice show to benefit the Center for AIDS Research and Education Services (CARES).

In two shows -- a matinee and an evening show -- featured world-class skaters had a crowd of some 600 fans cheering and screaming. The event raised between three and four thousand dollars for CARES, according to spokesman Michael

Campbell.

"This fundraiser was a great way to promote AIDS awareness to an audience we don't usually reach," said Campbell. "I was thrilled with the show and its results, and so was Sue (CARES Director Sue Strong)."

The main drawing card for the event was ex-Olympian and 1988 Bronze medalist Debi Thomas. And although she delighted the crowd with a parody of a little girl learning clumsily to skate, Thomas' performance was very brief compared to the rest of the talent that skated that evening.

For Sacramento fans, John Paul Licari (known to those in the Court as co-Emperor J.P.) wowed the house as he displayed the skills that won him a Gold medal in the recently completed Gay Games in New York City.

The choreography and costuming were reminiscent of a

Las Vegas floor show. Elegant ice-dancing couples captivated the audience particularly during an expressive rendering of "The Music of the Night" from the Broadway show "Phantom of the Opera."

One impression of the show was that the arena was inadequate for displaying such a production. The skating surface was minuscule compared to a hockey arena, and temporary grandstands for the fans took up a good portion of the performance space.

The skaters, however, were gallant troopers, playing to the crowd at every opportunity.

"Ice Fantastic" was televised and will be shown on Sacramento's Channel 17 Community Cable on August 18. Check your TV listings for the time of the broadcast.



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Letters From The Closet

Sending Local Authors Fame

They've been approached by Larry King Live, Maury Povich, Geraldo and Oprah Winfrey.

Nothing is in writing yet, and both of them are modest about the possibilities, but nationwide people in the communication industries are taking notice of their book, which will be a featured offering this fall in Publishers' Weekly, a national publishing trade periodical. The Advocate will print a review in October. Don't Panic Stores and Shocking Gray will both carry the book.

The authors' first national book signing tour begins this September 25 in Boston, but Sacramento readers get first dibs at a signing at Lioness Books on August 31 a 7 p.m. and at Christ Unity Church on August 20. Then it's on to New York, Philadelphia, Washington DC, Miami, Chicago, Atlanta and Toronto. Sacramento's new dynamic duo is on a roll.

The book that is causing the stir is *Letters From The Closet*. The authors are friends and roommates Paulette Jacobson and Tony Ferrante.

Not only are the authors local kids, but the publishers of the new book are Sacramento's own Tzedakah Publications, and local writer and entrepreneur Dell Richards, author of *Lesbian Lists*, is working on the distribution and marketing team. The incredible creative design of the book was done by Mary Burroughs-Comstock of Design & Litho. Also involved are various Sacramento artists and photographers, including the latest *ISSUE*'s own Brian Ashby.

One of the illustrations in the book is a composite of Greta's Cafe and New Helvetia coffee shop, two places where the authors often worked.

For the Sacramento community, and especially the gay and



Tony Ferrante and Paulette Jacobson, authors of the newly released book "Letters from the Closet."

lesbian community, this book is a family affair. According to Paulette Jacobson, the local teamwork is not an accident; "When good things happen to me, I want to take my friends along. I like to share success. This book has been so fun, and the people working on it have been incredible. I love 'em."

Letters From The Closet tells the story of Adam and Katie who are engaged to be married until Adam unexpectedly breaks off the relationship and leaves town. When they reconnect years later, Katie is living happily with her lesbian life partner and Adam is a Jesuit priest. It is a beautiful story of coming out and learning to love genuinely. It addresses issues of parents, children, gender, religion and a surprising number of other subjects drawn largely from the authors' experiences with their "Shades of Diversity" workshops, where they teach people in schools and businesses about gay and lesbian lives and culture.

"We took the most commonly asked questions from our seminars and built the story around

The reader feels like an eavesdropper, like someone who has opened an old trunk of personal correspondence.

them. We wanted to expand our speaking work into book form," explained Jacobson.

What could have turned into an academic tome, instead turned out to be a book of immense charm, surprising depth and genuine narrative integrity. It is also an extremely attractive book.

Perhaps the most surprising thing about *Letters From The Closet* is its form. The story is told entirely by way of letters, postcards, journal entries, post-it notes and memos. The reader feels like an eavesdropper, like someone who has opened an old trunk of personal corre-

spondence. The effect is a believable intimacy with the characters.

Because the tale is told in little bits and pieces, the writing has the honed feel of a well-written poem; every word counts. Jacobson and Ferrante have done an amazing job with their chosen structure. To flesh out characters and build a dramatic plot in such sparse terms is a real feat of literary talent.

In a touch of whimsy which is so characteristic of the gay and lesbian culture, the authors designed the book with a visual flare. The notes look like real notes; one even has a circular coffee stain in the corner. The postcards are actual pull-out postcards held in pockets shaped like mailboxes. Most of the entries are hand lettered, margin notes and all.

The art work is sometimes light and fun and sometimes truly profound. The deep blue illustration of the myth of Sisyphus tells its own story of the gay and lesbian struggle to live and love in a sometimes hostile world. Juxtaposed against Adam's struggle with

his Catholic superiors and the homophobic parent of one of his students, it is powerful indeed. "Mary was incredible," commented Jacobson. "She could take our ideas and 'bang' there they were in living color. She was there every step. She was amazing."

Even the lighter visuals are still full with meaning, but they are also fun. Just finding the clever and often subtle visual symbols and clues which tie the illustrations to the text and to the authors is worth a second reading of the book. (Can you find Tony's handsome ex-lover, or the medieval symbol for homosexual love?)

The book does not depend solely on its visual appeal to keep the reader's interest. Despite its relatively short length and potentially limiting form, it tells a good tale. The plot rises and recedes like any good novel, and the narrative surprises could work well in a movie version someday. One particular surprise, the one that ends the book, led the authors to admit to the latest *ISSUE*, "Yes, at least one sequel."

Tony: "Probably just one. If this one does well."

Paulette: "Adam is more developed in the book. The second one will probably feature Katie more. Her son. And parenting issues."

Asked if the characters are autobiographical, Ferrante chuckled, "Yes, but I'm not going to tell you which parts. The framework is us. The particulars, only some of them are us."

Like his character Adam, Tony Ferrante was a Jesuit. Unlike Adam, Tony was never ordained. He left the order two years prior to his ordination. "Ironically it was when I entered the Jesuits that I felt safe enough to face myself and to come out to myself."

Despite a strong Italian Catholic upbringing, after coming out of the closet, Ferrante was unable to stay in the church and support its views on gays and lesbians, as well as other

continued on page 30

by Michael R. Gorman photos by Brian Ashby

Sacramento Newsbits



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SACWN Lesbian Variety Show

SACWN will present "The Garden Variety Lesbian Variety Show" performed by the

comedy group, "This Side of Butch" on August 19, 6:30 p.m. at the Capitol Plaza Halls, 1025 9th Street, in the Silver Room.

The comedy troupe, "This Side of Butch" was formed during a particularly long stand-up comedy show when comedians Amy Boyd, Karla Carmony and Stephanie Mazow, agreed that it was time for something different in lesbian comedy. And so, "The Garden Variety Lesbian Variety Show" featuring skits, songs, videos and lots of wigs was born.

The show consists of a cavalcade of comedy with spoofs and satire of contemporary life from a decidedly lesbian point of view. You'll see television shows the way they should have been done. You'll see commercials for products you really can use. You'll see Madonna, Jodie, k.d., Martina, Cindy, and more very

"butch" stuff.

Tickets for the event are priced at \$10 for SACWN members and \$15 for non-members, and \$15 at the door and may be purchased by calling (916) 451-8034. This event is open to women over 21 years of age only.

Senior Eagles Fly at Lambda

"I have two speeds, slow and slower." That was the comment of a new member of the seniors group at the Lambda Community Center.

Beginning this summer, some members of the Eagles decided it would be a great idea to form a bicycle group for seniors who were not especially interested in racing down bikeways and training for cross country jaunts.

In addition to bicycling, many members of the Eagles play table games, bridge, backgammon, hearts and canasta once a month. Beginners are welcomed by more experienced players and are given space to learn by participating.

If you would like to receive The Eagle Flash newsletter or to find out more about the senior's group, call Ray at (916) 641-8460.

Just Do It, Just Volunteer

On Tuesday, August 16, and Sunday, August 21, the Lambda Community Center presents two opportunities for lesbian, gay and bisexual residents of the greater Sacramento area to become directly involved in their community. On these days, Tuesday at 6:30, and Sunday at 6 p.m., the Center offers orientation meetings for anyone interested in volunteering in programs ranging from outreach in the AIDS Response Program to reception, phone, fundraising, and office support.

Volunteer orientations, will be held at the Center, located at 1931 L Street. For more information, contact the Center at (916) 442-0185 or drop by and speak with one of the staff.

The Center urgently needs mature, committed individuals to assist with reception, phones, and to provide referrals during business hours, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, and Saturdays from 12 - 4 p.m. Also volunteers who have computer, sales, extensive public relations, or health education interests or experience are encouraged to help the center with its ongoing fundraising efforts, or outreach programs. Appropriate training and supervision will be provided, including semi-monthly group meetings and social events.

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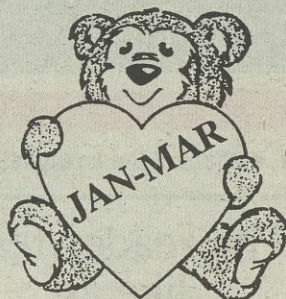


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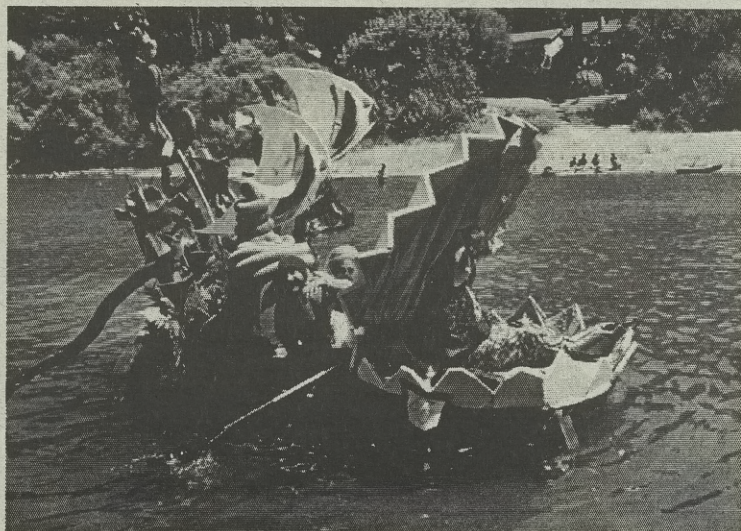
by Kate Moore

Once the lone security guard gave up on her attempts to clear the beach of (water) gun-toting spectators, the "Anything that Floats" parade took off.

The event is the cornerstone of Guerneville's River's Cup Canoe Race and Regatta.

The judges of the August 7 event were local media celebrities and community leaders including Bob St. Clair, former San Francisco Forty-Niner and Ann Fraser and Hank Plante of KPIX-TV. The weekend's events included a Memorial Pool Tournament, Canoe race and the Regatta all to benefit AIDS charities. Recipients this year's proceeds was Face to Face, Food for Thought and Henry House.

Kicking off the Regatta was the "Dykes on Bikes" contingent. Like the San Francisco Gay Parade, the women roared down the Russian River with a canoe decked out with handlebars and exhaust pipes. True,



The first place winning float carried a lip-synching mermaid with a lobster and squid rowing.

there were only two women in this contingent, but they got the crowd excited and ready for what was to come.

Following them was Rainbow Cattle Company's canoe with a clown named "Tutti Frutti" and his "Hunkus Americanas" rowing the boat.

"Welcome to the Rio World" was the name of the float sponsored by Ziggurat bar. The four canoes supported pillars with faux flames. On it was a cast of leather men, drag queens, dancing women and lots of gold lame'.

Bartlett's General Store of

Monte Rio entered "Pink Power." One canoe carried six people and two large pink elephants. Another canoe floated up to the judges and played the theme to Dumbo from a small boom box (for that multi-media effect).

Guerneville's gift and consignment store, Eclectica, sponsored "The Mermaid" float, complete with a lobster and a squid paddling a large shell down river. As they approached the judges area, the shell opened and revealed a drag-queen mermaid lip-synching to "I Want a Marry a Lighthouse Keeper." Mermaid Vincent Russell said, "We were up until 3 a.m. with



Canoe race winners Krista Juli and Alissa Friedman.

hot glue guns and straw putting it all together."

The most elaborate float was continued on page 14



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REGATTA

continued from page 13

sponsored by Redwood Property Services called "Mele the Virgin Goddess." A large smoke spewing volcano, small village, tiki god and hula dancer floated precariously down river on three canoes with the help of eight wildly rowing men. "The wind was pulling us back," said T.J. MacDonald, the float's virgin goddess, "but it was a great



Volunteer cooks slaved over the grills as they served burgers to the River's Cup crowd.



The crew from the Eclectica float proudly display their trophy.

time." Both the Mermaid and Volcano floats were designed by Jeff Shover.

The owner and manager of the Russian River Resort pulled up in front of the judges stand in a pink cadillac raft using the carrot on a stick method of motivation... instead of a carrot was a bottle of vodka.

Earlier in the day was the River's Cup Canoe Race. The race began at Fife's Resort and went down river four-miles to Vacation Beach and back to Fifes. Competition was fierce but Alissa Friedman and Krista Juli won first place in the race. "It's our second year and we

were ready to win," said Friedman. Others in the race were just happy to complete the route. "I think we went ten miles instead of four," said one race contestant, "we were going from one side of the river to the other all the way down river."

Awards were handed out to the winners of the Regatta with Eclectica's Mermaid float coming in as first place winner -- business sponsor category, second place to Ziggurat's Rio World, and third place to the Pink Elephant. The floats were judged on floatability, theme, presentation, originality and

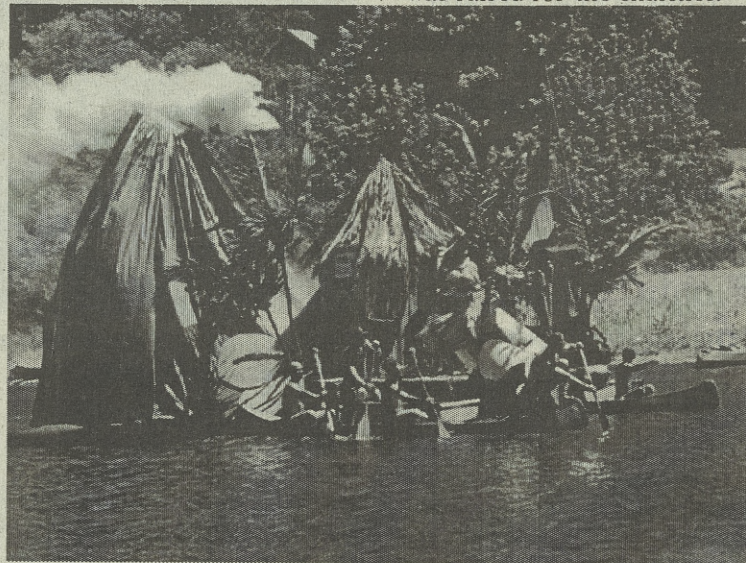
entertainment value. "The Redwood Property Float definitely deserves an honorable mention," said River's Cup President Kathryn Marceau, "I think the wind just held them back too much."

The night before the Race and Regatta, was the Russ Coughlan Memorial Pool Tournament at Molly Brown's Saloon. Each year the Russian River locals compete against the "Media Swine" and this year the locals won 16 games to nine.

"I consider myself a local" said event host Pat Kerrigan of

Q105, the local Country Western radiostation as she announced the winners. "Some of the media people were seeing pink elephants last night. I hope they had their names sewn into their underwear so they remember who they are."

With all the frivolity and fun that was had at the weekend's events, the purpose was never forgotten. "I look forward to the day when we don't need to raise money to fight this disease, any disease," said Kerrigan. More than \$10,000 was raised for the charities.



The Redwood Property "Mele the Virgin Goddess" float was the most elaborate in the parade.

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Country-Western Weekend at the Russian River



Redwood Empire Horseman's Association members "Push their Tushes" at Fife's Bunkhouse. From left, George Anthony, David LaViolette, D.J. Robin, and R.E.H.A. chairperson, Glenn Dixon.

The streets of Guerneville will be filled with sizzling hot cowboys and cowgirls ready to have fun August 19 - 21 for Country Western Weekend.

This benefit event for Food for Thought and Women's Breast Cancer Center offers a weekend in among the redwoods, packed with plenty of activities including country-western dancing, entertainment, BBQ's, the "Human" two-legged Rodeo, and the Mr. & Ms. Russian River Wrangler tight jeans contest.

Friday evening's schedule kick off includes the Tight Jeans (Buns) Contest and the first of the rodeo events (boy and girl

roping) at Rainbow Cattle Company. Dancing is available at Fife's Bunkhouse.

Christi Layne salutes Country Western and singer John Blaylock at the Triple "R". Saturday daytime activities include

a continuation of Rodeo events; Barrel racing at the Willows, Flag Racing at the Triple R, and T Shirt Auction and Pole Bending at Fife's.

Saturday evening after the main event will be Johnny Blaylock at the Triple R in the lounge and dancing at Fife's Bunkhouse and outdoors around the pool. Sunday, the River and World famous Tan line contest, BBQ and Pool party will be held at the Highland Dell/Country Club in Monte Rio. The Rewood Empire

Featuring the Human Rodeo...

Horseman's Association is a Country-Western social group which sponsors two Western Weekends a year. For more info call (707) 869-GLBA (4522). For accommodations, call host resort, Fife's. Other sponsors include the latest *ISSUE* and Paradise Cove Resort.

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The AIDS File

Crying Out For Answers -- A Memorial To A Loved One

by Bruce Mirken

Recently, as I stood at the middle of the Golden Gate Bridge and looked out over San Francisco Bay on a clear, impossibly beautiful summer day, my ex-lover Tim did something he hasn't done in a very long time. He made me laugh.

Try as I might to be alone with my thoughts, the constant stream of camera-toting tourists in tacky clothes kept distracting me. I just wanted to tell them all to go the hell away and leave me alone. Suddenly, as if out of nowhere, I heard Tim's voice. In that tinny, mock-midwestern accent he'd put on

to make fun of yokels, he shouted, "Oh Myrna, look! It's Alcatraz!" and I burst into giggles.

Tim, you see, died in February 1993. And though I assume the voice I heard came from some corner of my imagination rather than any physical presence, it doesn't matter. It was

the first time since he died that I've been able to think of him and laugh.

But grief is a funny thing. Just when you think you're getting over it, just when you think you've pulled yourself back together, it sneaks up and smacks you. Just two days after that moment on the bridge I unthinkingly popped a cassette into my stereo and was stopped dead by Roy Orbison and k.d. lang singing a duet on a classic old song of Orbison's:

I thought that I was over you
But it's true, so true
I love you even more
Than I did before

But darling, what can I do?

I collapsed on the couch, shaking with sobs and calling--no, howling--Tim's name.

It doesn't go away. It doesn't get better. It doesn't stop hurting, ever. A healing of a sort does take place over time, but what you get is a sort of emotional scar tissue: The wound isn't so obvious anymore, but it's still there under the surface, and you're never, ever the same again.

For the record, Tim didn't die of AIDS; he was unlucky enough to get inoperable cancer of the liver and pancreas at the age of 31, exactly the second non-AIDS death I've experienced in the last dozen years. But on some level it hardly

seems to matter: his passing came in the midst of a sea of AIDS deaths, a grim drumbeat that just never stops.

His death would have been devastating all by itself, but the torrent of grief that many of us

about watching your friends get eaten away by a virus.

This is the point in the column where, having pointed out some unhappy situation, I usually start drawing clever (some might say sanctimonious and

The tide of loss I'm trying feebly to describe here has swamped a whole generation of gay men. It's changed us irrevocably...

have endured is an experience no one who hasn't lived through it can imagine. I missed two friends' funerals because I was too busy arranging Tim's.

The point of this is not to dwell on my own personal pain--in fact, just the opposite: The tide of loss I'm trying feebly to describe here has swamped a whole generation of gay men. It's changed us irrevocably--how we live, how we form relationships, how we organize to try to deal with this continuing plague--and I don't think we've begun to understand how.

Others have compared our experience with AIDS to living in wartime. In terms of sheer volume of loss, the comparison is valid, but in other ways the experience is entirely different. Wartime deaths, after all, maybe brutal, but often they're at least quick, with the pain over in minutes rather than dragged out over years. And--at least if he's lucky--a soldier can be comforted by the thought that his fallen buddies died defending their country, defending freedom or struggling for some sort of worthy end. It's hard to feel that way

smug) conclusions and maybe even begin suggesting solutions. Not this time. I have no answers, only questions. All I know is that America as a society has never been terribly good at dealing with death, and we as a community haven't done much better.

Maybe a starting point is to realize how difficult it is just to live--much less build a movement that's trying to alter the direction of scientific research, government policy and societal mores--with the amount of pain we as a community have endured. It's so easy to criticize, so easy to lay blame (and I've certainly done my share), so easy to lash out in frustration and rage--and so hard to just keep it together.

I don't have any answers this time. I only know we have got to start asking the questions.

And even though the stereo is off as I write this, that song keeps running through my head and I can't make it stop: You said so long
And left me standing all alone
Alone and crying
crying

I miss you, Timmy.

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San Francisco

Tom Nolan speaks on his new position as Executive Director and

The Continuing Vision of Project Open Hand

by Kate Moore

Former San Mateo Supervisor Tom Nolan takes over as executive director of Project Open Hand September 1. He brings with him years of experience, a great deal of political savvy and a heart full of love for people with AIDS.

Project Open Hand, which provides hot meals and groceries to 2800 Bay Area people living with AIDS, is now the world's largest provider of food to people with HIV, and the nation's largest volunteer agency (1500 volunteers cook meals, staff the food banks and deliver meals each week).

Nolan has served as Executive Director of the San Francisco Planning and Urban Research Association since January 1993. He served on the San Mateo County board of Supervisors from 1985 to 1993 and chaired the county's AIDS Task Force in 1985. He was a congressional candidate in 1992 and was State Co-Chair of the "No on 102" campaign in 1988.

Nolan replaces Steve Burns who served Project Open Hand for five years until he resigned to care for his HIV-infected life partner.

In an interview with *the latest ISSUE*, Nolan expressed his excitement at the new appointment and his dedication to Project Open Hand and people living with AIDS in the Bay Area.

LI: What are the personal strengths you will bring to Project Open Hand as executive director?

Nolan: I like to think that I am a big picture sort of person, a problem solver who looks for solutions. I understand the nature of compromise, and how to build consensus. Having been in government a long time, I bring connections to city hall and state government.

LI: As a proud gay man what do you bring to the position?

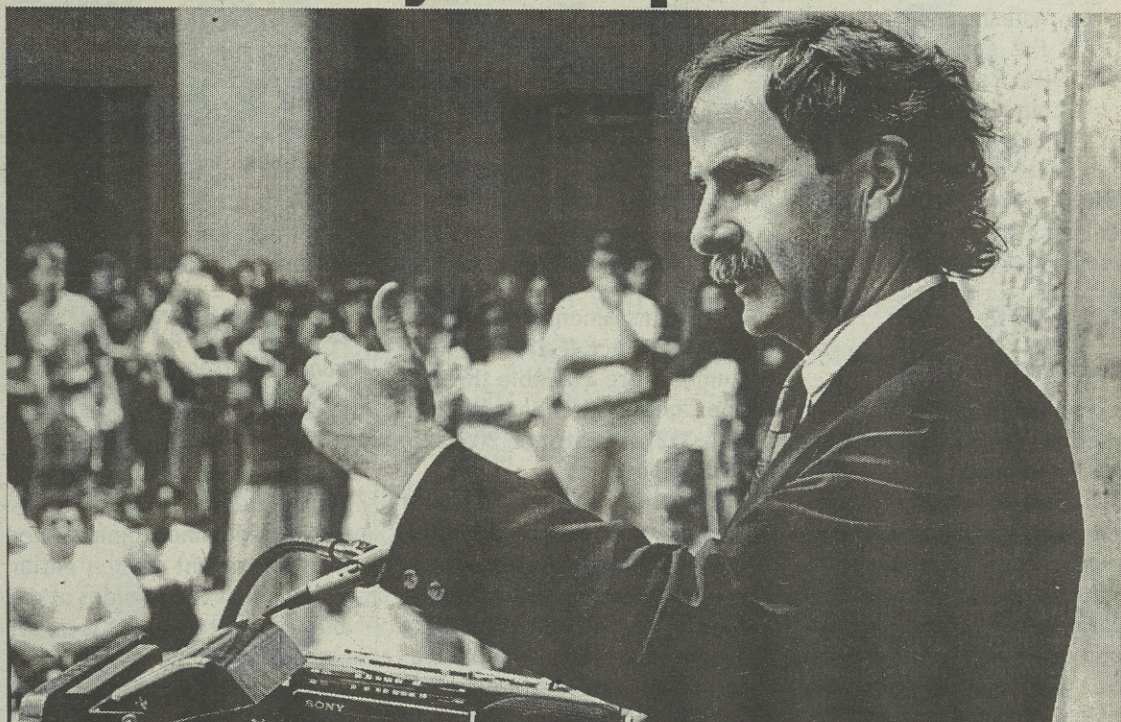
Nolan: AIDS is the number one story in my life. Between 100-150 of my friends have died. As much as it is spreading to

the heterosexual world, in San Francisco nearly 65% of AIDS cases are gay men.

I am a person of faith. I believe we all have talents and abilities for a reason. I thought that my talent was being a leader -- a politician, to make change in the system. When this opportunity came up I saw that I could use my leadership

I am a person of faith. I believe we all have talents and abilities for a reason...

skills on a very personal level, to convey a sense of vision and recognition that we're all in this life together. To me, (being executive director) is my



Rick Gerhart

Tom Nolan has been selected to head Project Open Hand. He begins his duties September 1.

way of being engaged in the story of my life.

LI: What is your vision for Project Open Hand?

Nolan: I would say the most significant vision for the project is to maintain the best possible service -- a human response to the needs of people living with AIDS. I hope to increase collaboration with similar organizations, others who provide educational, nutritional and emotional support.

My personal vision is that no one will go without a meal. To keep with the vision of Open Hand's Founder Ruth Brinker to feed people who have AIDS and to do so with love. Often people who work with charities like Open Hand want to do too

much.... it's a noble aspiration, but you have to recognize the mission and keep focused.

I'm told that never in the nine-year history of the organization has a person who called by 10 a.m. not received a hot meal that evening. That is a goal that is easily measurable.

LI: Several years ago you were instrumental in ending the hunger strike of Stewart McDonald, a HIV-positive man who was fasting to raise awareness of legislation that

threatened people with AIDS. How did you convince him to end his fast?

Nolan: He made a tremendous personal statement and had received considerable coverage of the issue he was fasting for. I told him we needed him in the struggle and he had done all that he could. Sometimes if you've been truly touched, words are unnecessary and silence or a touch can convey the importance of the

continued on page 28

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RAINBOW

continued from page 9

nity an opportunity to know what agencies and programs are there for them, and how to get involved in civil rights and health issues," explained Cassese.

The celebration this year promises to be exciting. Faces DJ Jon Williams, who is coordinating the entertainment for the 1994 Rainbow Festival, spoke animatedly of the line-up for the shows. In the tent behind Faces on Wednesday, August 31 will be The Erotic Show beginning at 11p.m. with performance artist Rainbeau (pro-

nounced rainbow). "She's incredible. At one point she puts shaving cream all over her body and shaves herself... well, the women love it."

Rounding out the erotic fare will be dance band Fem2Fem who delighted the crowd at Stonewall 25 last June by baring their breasts on stage in front of the police and launching into an extremely suggestive dance routine to wildly driving dance rhythms.

Again in the tent on Thursday the first at 8 p.m. will be Jo and Stacy's Kickoff Show, a cabaret featuring music, dance, comedy and lots of female impersonation. The special guest host will be lesbian comedian

Shann Carr. After the show, the Barbary Coast Cloggers will perform on the dance floor in Faces. Back out in the tent at 11pm Mark Peters will perform with the famous puppet Madame. Williams claims that she is even more outrageous since being partnered with Peters. (Wayland Flowers, who made Madame famous, passed away recently.)

The opening act on Saturday night at midnight is comedian Steve Moore, a gay man who is happily married to lesbian comic Lois Bromfield. Steve is HIV+ and is not afraid to joke openly of his status in his routine, content that some find shocking and many find refreshingly hon-

est. He opens for chanteuse extraordinaire Robin S. who had the number one club dance hit of 1993, *Show Me Love*. She will perform a number of her hit songs.

The Sunday Rainbow Festival Street Fair begins at 10 a.m. and continues throughout the day with entertainment, food and fun. Booths of local merchants and community organizations will be located on 20th Street between L and J Streets in Sacramento.

On Sunday night after the street fair of sun, food, shopping and information, Lois Bromfield will rock the tent with laughter. The Festival will end with a Thank You Tea Dance at

Faces beginning at 3pm. It will include a free Barbecue, a Tan Line Contest and lots of music and dancing. Williams told *the latest ISSUE* that he is trying to arrange The First Annual Sacramento Drag Queen Race as well, a kind of relay race involving drag queens getting into drag at stations (a makeup station, a lingerie station, etc.) under tight time limits and the glare of public amusement and then racing on tricycles in high heel pumps. Stay tuned.

For information on booth reservation or advertising in the Rainbow Festival program call (916) 441-3973.

The latest ISSUE is a proud sponsor of Rainbow Festival.

HELMS

continued from page 5

and ignorant legislation, or whether he will carry out the death sentence."

The Senate will go to conference with the House after the August recess to reconcile the two versions of the education bill. Alternative language presented by Senator Kennedy can still be accepted by the committee. National gay and lesbian leaders are urging gays to flood their Senators and Representatives with calls against

the Helms amendment to the education act (S.1513). Phone numbers are available through the Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121 (Senate) or 202-225-3121 (House).

In the meantime, Senator Helms is still busy. On Thursday, August 4, he introduced six amendments to the Labor/HHS Appropriations bill and one to the Veterans Administration/HUD Appropriations Bill. Senate rules allowed him to keep the nature of the amendments secret until taking them to the Senate floor.

COMMENTARY

continued from page 4

exchange information, have coffee, present plays, send press releases, grant interviews, organize rallies. A place where they could come running when the government of their nation decides that the suicides of gay and lesbian teenagers is an acceptable loss in its perverse march to codify a narrow theology into the public schools.

Now visualize a network of such gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender community centers in every substantial city in the nation. Imagine every sexual outcast served by every center's programs dropping a few pennies into the collection every week.

Imagine the computer and phone network between the centers that could be activated in a moment. Imagine the information exchange. Imagine the

money. Imagine the power.

The fundamentalist churches could not stand against us. We have a few things that they lack despite their organizational head start. We have truth. We have justice. We have intellectual integrity. We have compassion that does not limit itself to our ranks. We have tempered souls strengthened by the personal battles we have won against incredible odds. We have a dignity born out of our own lonely hearts that is slowly being married to thousands like us. We have love. Now let us make ourselves a practical, concrete meeting place to encourage, nurture, strengthen and trumpet these things. Let's start here. Now.

Feel like bitching? Then build instead. Don't like the way the nails are driven? Grab a hammer. Feel left out? Make a place. Unsure? Let's talk. Meet me at the community center.

NEWSBITS

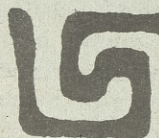
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"availability of other tickets to other post-concert dinners impeded the sale of tickets to my benefit. For these reasons, it was mutually agreed that a cancellation would be in the best interests of all concerned."

Death --Threats in Nevada

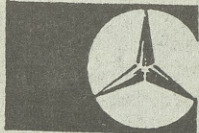
A self-proclaimed white supremacist's quest for a gay man to beat up allegedly turned into murder in Reno, Nevada earlier this month. Just Suade Slotto, 21, is accused of stabbing William D. Metz to death after getting a ride from the victim. Slotto told police he slashed Metz at least 20 times with a switchblade after Metz allegedly made a pass at him. Also in Reno, a television station received a death threat aimed at a gay rights advocate. An anonymous caller to KRNVT said there would be another other killing similar to the murder of Metz and identified Eddie Anderson, leader of an organization formed to combat an anti-gay initiative as the intended victim.

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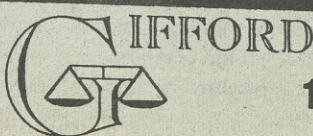
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What's So Shocking?

by P.J. Dunker

Gray isn't shocking, and being gay isn't something that should be shocking either. That's the point Cynthia Cesnalis intended to make when she founded *Shocking Gray*, the mail order catalog company "for the other 25 million people" in 1991.

It shouldn't be shocking that *Shocking Gray* is alive and well either. But it may have shocked some people to see an ad for the gay and lesbian catalog in *USA Today*. "I think that our putting ads in mainstream publications is an important statement that we'll be making," Rick Hutcheson told *the latest ISSUE* recently in an interview.

Rick Hutcheson is not someone to take lightly either. He's a former Vice President of Time Warner Enterprises. He's served as a Senior Advisor on the Al Gore Presidential Campaign. He was a Staff Secretary to Jimmy Carter, and he currently serves on both the New York Gay and Lesbian Film Festival and the New York chapter of GLAAD.

In June, after raising \$750,000 in new capital for expanding the future of the catalog, he added becoming the new President and CEO of *Shocking Gray Corporation* to his list of achievements.

When he was asked why someone with his credentials decided to step into the role of CEO at *Shocking Gray*, he replied, "Being a gay man myself, I've always wanted to do something for the gay and lesbian community. I think working on a gay business, and building a strong, profitable gay business is just another way that we help bring our community onto the table side by side everybody else, so it's a wonderful opportunity for me." Hutcheson was quick to add, "The other bigger answer is that I think as someone who has recently just left Time Warner, there's an enormous change happening on the horizon with what's happening with television. Sometime in the next five or so years, certainly by the end of this century, we'll have smart television sets that will make a lot of direct to home interactive opportunities available.

We know that home shopping works, and we know that entertainment programming works, and so it's very much in our plan to move *Shocking Gray* into this direct marketing future. I see the future in television as a future where you have a lot of discreet audiences with intense interests, whether one is an avid golfer or a gay man or a lesbian, there's going to be a television packager of software for you. I think there's a great opportunity for us [*Shocking Gray*] to be the shopping channel and possibly also the entertainment channel for gay men and lesbians in their homes." He estimates that in six months, *Shocking Gray* will have an appropriate presence on the Internet.

Other plans include the introduction of new catalogs that target a more specific group of people. *M2M* is one of these expansion catalogs and will target urban gay men as its customers. A version that will target lesbians is due to be released next year. No title has yet been chosen for the women's catalog.

"We are literally mailing as you and I speak our first book and video club issue. We've created something called *Shocking Gray - Best Sellers' Club*. Not everybody's fortunate enough to live next to a good gay bookstore, so we are going to provide an opportunity every month for people to get the latest new videos or new books," Hutcheson reported. "We are very fortunate, our premier issue we have an interview with Paul Mannette talking about his new book. Our goal is to go to men and women who are cultural leaders in our

continued on page 28

"I think working on a gay business, and building a strong, profitable gay business is just another way that we help bring our community onto the table side by side everybody else."

the latest events

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SACRAMENTO

AUGUST 13

Archival Framing's Gallery - Artist's reception from 7-9 p.m. at 1729 L Street, Sacramento. Featuring "What This Country needs is a good 5 cent cigar, cigar box art for recessionary times." Call 444-9624.

AUGUST 15

A Lesbian Support Group - meets every 1st & 3rd Monday at the De Witt Center in Auburn. Call (916) 632-7080.

AUGUST 16

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - will meet 7:30 p.m. at St. Marks United Methodist Church, 2391 St. Marks Way (corner of Lusk), Sacramento. A video, "Gay Youth" by Pam Walton, will be shown and discussed. Call (916) 722-0327.

AUGUST 17

HIV Positive Emotional Support Group - meets in the Buehler Building at 2800 L Street. They meet on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Call (916) 446-3734.

Lesbian and Gay Business Alliance - will meet at 7 p.m. at Carrows Restaurant, J & 28th. Membership is open to anyone who ethically and responsibly owns or represents a business. There is no charge to guests at their first meeting. Call (916) 863-9733.

AUGUST 18

Being Gay Today - channel 17 features Latest ISSUE publisher Kate Moore and Michael Boyd of the G/L Town Council. 10 p.m.

AUGUST 19

This Side of Butch - a three-women comedy troupe will perform their new work, "The Garden Variety Lesbian Variety Show" for SACWN at 6:30 p.m. at the Capitol Plaza Halls, 1025 9th Street, in the Silver Room.

\$10 subscribers; \$15 non-subscribers. Call (916) 451-8034.

AUGUST 20

National Homeless Animals' Day - Candlelight vigil, Sacramento SPCA, 7:30 p.m., 6201 Florin-Perkins Rd., Sacramento. Call



Fem 2 Fem performs for the Rainbow Festival Wednesday, August 31 at 11 p.m.

SAN FRANCISCO - BAY AREA

AUGUST 12

Karen Ripley and Karla Carmody - a night of lesbian stand-up comedy at Mama Bears. Women only. 8 p.m. \$8-\$12. (510) 428-9684.

AUGUST 13

Monica Grant - performs music and comedy at Mama Bears. 8 p.m. \$8-\$12. (510) 428-9684.

AUGUST 17-18

Living Proof - HIV and the Pursuit of Happiness" plays at the Castro Theater. Daily at 1,3,5,7,& 9. (415) 621-6120

AUGUST 19

Desire - a dance club for women. Two dance floors, go-gos, billiards, after hours. Cover \$7. 55 Natoma Street. (between 1st & 2nd & Mission & Howard Streets) San Francisco. Doors open at 9 p.m. The next

Desire party is Friday, Sept. 16th.

AUGUST 20

San Francisco FrontRunners - celebrate the occasion of their 20th anniversary on Saturday, with a dinner at the Cliff House Restaurant in San Francisco. Call (415) 863-0954.

AUGUST 24

Forever Tango: The Eternal Dance - Theatre on the square for five weeks only. 450 Post Street. Call (415) 362-5114.

SEPTEMBER 3

Gay Comedy Night - 8 p.m. or 10 p.m. \$10. Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint. Plays 10, 17 & 24th. (415) 861-7933.

SEPTEMBER 5

Gay Day at the 13th Annual San Francisco Fair - Labor Day Weekend, 3,4,& 5th. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. at Civic Center Plaza at Polk &

McAllister Streets. Food, exhibits, music & entertainment. (415) 703-2729.

SEPTEMBER 16

Boy's Life - Three Stories of Love, Lust and Liberation plays at the Castro Theater through the 22nd. (415) 621-6120.

The Lavender Lounge - the official video of the San Francisco Gay Parade The video will be re-broadcast every Tuesday at 10 p.m. on channel 47 through August 30th. (415) 337-4921.

SEPTEMBER 25

The Folsom Street Fair. Call (415) 648-3247

SEPTEMBER 26

UCSF AIDS Health Project - presents "Ten Years of Facing the Future Together: A Variety Show Benefit for AIDS Relief. 8 p.m. Call (415) 476-6430.

(916)922-0570 for more info.

Second Wind Ranch 1st Annual Summer Roundup - Pattie & Rita are producing the first women's event at their ranch. All day barbecue, swimming, sunning at the creek, volleyball, horseshoes, workshops, song circle, C&W dance lessons, arts & crafts. Dancing under the stars to Second Wind. \$25 per person, \$45 per couple. Call (916) 642-1360.

AUGUST 21

Memorial Services - In loving memory of Chuck Vickers, come spend a short time to remember the wonderful music and ministry of this fallen friend and loved one. 3 p.m. at River City MCC - Cathedral of Promise Mather Air Force Base.

AUGUST 27

Colorscope presents: "Caribbean Sunset", a fundraising benefit with regional food, music, and raffle prizes, between 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. Call (916) 863-5879. \$6 admission (Colorscope is a culturally diverse gay, lesbian, bisexual collective dedicated to multicultural events in the Sacramento area).

AUGUST 31

Fem 2 Fem kicks off Rainbow Festival weekend at Faces, 2000 K Street in the tent, 11 p.m. Performance artist Rainbeau opens the show. A benefit for local gay organizations. Sponsored by the latest ISSUE, Faces and Miller Beer. See story on page 9



Letters from the Closet - Paulette Jacobson will sign her book, at Lioness Books, 2224 J Street, Sacramento at 7 p.m.

Paulette Jacobson.

SEPTEMBER 1

Jo and Stacey Kick-off party for the Rainbow Festival with comedian Shann Carr the in the tent. Mark Peters and Madam perform in the video room and the Barbary Coast Cloggers in the dance bar. Entrance of all events is through the tent behind Faces, 2000 K Street.

SEPTEMBER 2

Mick Martin & The Blues Rockers and Johnny Heartsman & Nightfeast - at the Summer Sammies Concert in Plaza Park, 5:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 3

Robin S sings her hits for the Rainbow Festival crowd in the tent at 11:30 p.m. Comedian Steve Moore opens the show. At Faces, 2000 K Street.



Members of the Redwood Empire Horseman's Association welcome all to Western Weekend at the Russian River August 19 - 21. Co-sponsored by *the latest ISSUE*.

Chalk it up to Sacramento - A benefit for children's art education grants. Sidewalk paintings by some of Sacramento's best artists. Free to the public. Live entertainment, craft vendors, free art activities. Food and a beer garden. Fremont Park, 15th & P Streets, Downtown Sacramento. Call (916) 484-5710.

SEPTEMBER 4

Pre-Festival Brunch at Jammin Jo's, 2721 Broadway. Call 457-7888 to reserve your table.

Rainbow Festival Street Fair, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. 2000 K Street. Sponsored by the latest ISSUE, Miller Beer and Faces. Entertainment, food and gay pride. For booth information call (916) 441-3973.

SEPTEMBER 5

Monday Night Football at Jammin Jo's,

2721 Broadway. The 49ers vs. the Raiders 6 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 9

Mumbo Gumbo - at the Summer Sammies Concert in Plaza Park, 5:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 21

Gay and Lesbian Film Festival Video Showing at CSUS in the Redwood Room or the University Union. \$5

SEPTEMBER 23-24

The Third Annual Sacramento International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival at the Crest Theater, 1013 K Street, September 23 & 24 to benefit CARES, HEAL and the AIDS Housing Alliance. Tickets are \$7 general, \$5 students. Tickets are available at Lioness Books and the Lambda Community Center. Co-sponsored by *the latest ISSUE*.

SUPERIOR CALIFORNIA

AUGUST 18

Just Rewards - sponsors gay comedy night every Thursday night from 8 to 9:30 p.m. No cover. 2520 Camino Diablo, Walnut Creek. (510) 256-1200.

AUGUST 19

Jesus Christ Superstar - A Benefit for Face To Face AIDS Network. Performed by Petaluma Youth Road, Petaluma. Performances also on Saturday and Sunday. Call (707) 544-1581.

SEPTEMBER 4

Antique Fair - sponsored by Healdsburg Classic Antiques. For more info call 1-800-648-9922.

SEPTEMBER 1-5

The 15th Anniversary West Coast Women's Music and Comedy Festival - Price includes music, comedy, crafts, sports danc-

ing, workshops, camping, food and fun! Call (818) 893-4075.

SEPTEMBER 16

Chico Freedom Fest Weekend "Stonewall 25" - The festivities will begin on Friday, at 7 p.m. with an opening party and bingo at the Stonewall Alliance Center. Saturday's events include a community BBQ & dance. Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. enjoy a day of music, food, comedy, crafts, & beer garden at Bidwell Park in Chico. Call (916) 893-3336.

SEPTEMBER 18

Three Snaps Up Presents the 3rd Annual PLUNGE - at Raging Waters, Lake Cunningham Regional Park, San Jose. Beach House DJ, The Gay Dating Game, Queer Beach Olympics, and Surf-A-GoGo. Sponsored by LIVE 105. Call 800-473-8658.

RUSSIAN RIVER AND NORTH BAY

AUGUST 12-14

Russian River Leather Weekend - Friday night cocktail party at Ziggurat with SF Comedian Lurch. \$7. Saturday Riverside party at the Willows with Leather Daddy, Boy, & Ms. Contests. \$5. Leather Dance at Ziggurat with Pussy Tourette 'LIVE'. \$12. Sunday Riverside Party at the Willows with Beer spitting contest \$5. T-dance at Ziggurat \$3. Call (707) 837-9951.

LaCage aux folles - by the River Repertory Theater. Performance is at the Jenner Playhouse on Hwy 1 in Jenner. Call (707) 865-2905. Plays through August 27th.

AUGUST 19-21

Country Western Weekend IV - at the Russian River featuring The Campers from The Comedy Store, the Human Rodeo, Mr. & Ms. RR Wrangler Contest Tee Shirt Auction. Proceeds to benefit Food for Thought & Women's Breast Cancer Center. Call 707-869-GLBA.

AUGUST 20

Jane Olivor - presented by Domaine Chandon. A benefit for Napa Valley AIDS Project & HIV-Network. 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$25. Call (707) 944-2280.

AUGUST 28

Tavern Guild Picnic - will be held at Fifes Resort. Call 1-800-7-FIFES-1.

SEPTEMBER 4

Basket & Buns Contest - Russian River Resort. Call (707) 869-0691.

SEPTEMBER 20

Torch Song Trilogy - by the River Repertory Theater. Performances are at the Jenner Playhouse on Hwy. 1 in Jenner. Call (707) 865-2905.

SEPTEMBER 10

Russian River Jazz Festival - at Johnson's Beach in Guerneville, CA. Great Jazz, crafts by local artists, beverages and gourmet foods. Call (707) 869-3940.

SEPTEMBER 17

Celebrity Pie Throw at the Russian River Resort. Call (707) 869-0691 for info.

SEPTEMBER 23

Women's Weekend II.

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- ▼ HIV+ Support Group 7:00PM (moving to Tues in Sept)

Tuesdays

- ▼ Sexual Knowledge in the Nineties 7:00PM
- ▼ Volunteer Orientation - all welcome! 8/16 6:30PM

Wednesdays

- ▼ Eagles (for seniors) 8/24 & 9/7 6:30PM
- ▼ African-American Men's Group 8/24 & 9/14 6:30PM
- ▼ H.E.A.L. - Health Education and Awareness for Lesbians 7:00PM (call for dates)

Thursdays

- ▼ Being Alive Living Room for PWAs 2:00-5:00PM
- ▼ Women's Coming Out Group 6:00PM
- ▼ CODA (co-dependents anonymous) 7:30PM

Fridays

- ▼ Youth Rap Group (24 & under) 5:45PM
- ▼ Café Lambda 8:00PM *Special!* Country singer Laura Bowly on August 19th

Saturdays

- ▼ Youth Social (24 & under) 8:00PM
- ▼ Traffic School 9/10 8AM- 4:30PM

Sundays

- ▼ Volunteer Orientation - all welcome! 8/21 6:00PM
- ▼ Sac Area Bisexual Network 8/21 & 9/11 6:30PM

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Entertainment

Lambda Players on "Eastern Standard" Time

by Chris Narloch

If the Lambda Players' latest production, "Eastern Standard," is ultimately less than the sum of its parts, well, those parts -- specifically the actors and their director -- are pretty damn good.

The story revolves around five dissatisfied yuppies living in New York City circa 1987 and their platonic and romantic entanglements, which include brushes with AIDS and homelessness. The title refers not to eastern standard "time" but to eastern standard "values" (the standards and morals of Eastern philosophy as opposed to Western.)

The first of three scenes in Act 1 opens in a New York City cafe where two thirty-something couples are dining. Stephen is a troubled architect and friend to Drew, a sarcastic, gay painter looking for love. They are joined, at a different table in the same restaurant, by Phoebe, a workaholic career woman and her brother, Peter who we will learn has AIDS.

These early scenes are brisk and funny, and the clever dialogue reveals that Stephen is obsessed with Phoebe and that



The Lambda Players Presentation of "Eastern Standard" features Ken Figeroid, Gregg Peterson, Ann Wheatley and David Stickler.

Drew has the hots for Peter. They flirt and argue and play musical chairs thanks to some ingenious staging by director Cathy Reeves, who changes our perspective, literally, on the restaurant by reversing part of the set in between scenes.

This scenic witchcraft brings the audience and the other characters into contact with a volatile streetperson named May, who has been disrupting her fellow diners. When she refuses to leave and then attacks Peter, screaming and calling him a "faggot," the play's most interesting theme is revealed -- that oppressed people are not necessarily sympathetic to the suffering of other oppressed people (Drew, although gay, is similarly critical of homeless May.)

Act 2, which at almost two hours is overly long, provides the romantic payoffs to the story but is less entertaining

than the first act. The relationships are resolved too predictably, and the fireworks we expect when crazy May is invited to share a beach house with the other characters never materialize.

Nevertheless, there are numerous occasions for the performers to shine. Ann Wheatley is especially fine as Phoebe, and her description of a dream where she is "dancing on the rim of the champagne glass" is particularly vivid. And Kenneth S. Figeroid has scene-stealing fun as Drew, who refers to his server as "actress" instead of "waitress." Gregg Peterson does an admirable job with the underdeveloped role of Peter, the AIDS sufferer, and David Stickler makes a nice transformation from near-nerd to romantic hero as Stephen.

The last two parts are less effective: Tina Luppino does the best she can with the cliched role of the vapid waitress, Ellen; and Martha Omiyo Kight, as May, is too abrupt in her shifts of personality (even given the fact that the character she's playing may actually be schizophrenic.)

The playwright, Richard Greenberg, has taken on more than he can fully develop -- AIDS, homelessness, and the moral decline of a generation is a lot for one play to handle. After a terrific start, the story eventually runs out of steam. With "Eastern Standard" the Lambda Players have lavished a considerable amount of talent on a play that doesn't necessarily merit it.



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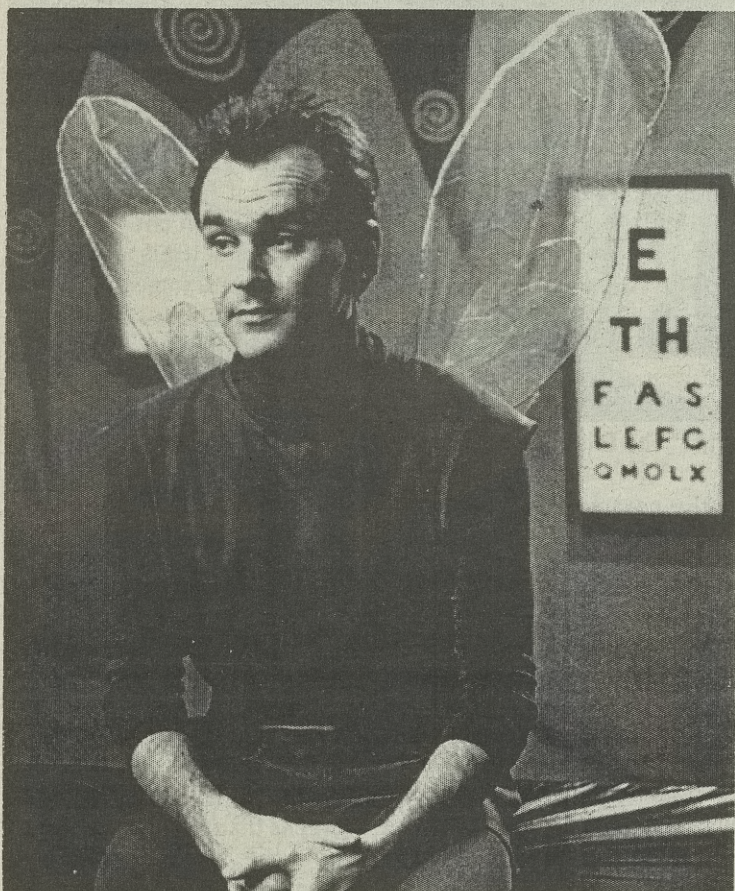
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Sacramento Gay Film Festival Expands

by Stan Carlsen

Plans have been underway for several months in preparation for this year's edition of the Sacramento International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.



"The Fairy Who Didn't Want To Be A Fairy Anymore."

The event is to be held over three days--Wednesday, September 21st, Friday the 23rd, and Saturday the 24th.

Included in this year's show will be a night of video productions to be screened at Sacramento State University's Redwood Room. Several independent artists will be featured and some of the filmmakers will be on hand to introduce their work.

Among the highlights of the video program will be a gay and lesbian music video that debuted at CAP-PAC's dinner earlier this year. The piece was locally produced and drew rave reviews at the dinner.

how much diversity and technological achievement there is to take in," said Dimit. "I'm thrilled at the response we've gotten from artists so far."

The Crest Theater on K Street Mall will again play host to the films. Featured among these are films from around the world. This is why the event's title includes "international" for the first time.

This third annual festival will also feature a late show on Saturday night which will consist of Greg Araki's ("The Living End") latest feature, "Totally Fucked Up," a drama about gay and lesbian 'Gen-Xers.'

As a special treat to major contributors--- "Friends of the Festival"---there will be a catered reception on Friday night previous to that evening's program. One of the film makers scheduled to appear is Desi DeValle whose movie "Cruel" will be featured in the festival.

Tickets for the Film Festival will cost \$5.00 for the video program at Sac State and \$5-\$7 for student and general admission at the Crest. All shows will have differing programs, so remember to buy for the programs you wish to see.

Tickets and program information will be available at the Film Festival booth at the Rainbow Festival on Labor Day.

The Festival is sponsored by Delta Lambda Phi/ Iota Chapter and GLAS at Sac State. The profits will be split by three local charities--HEAL, CARES, and the AIDS Housing Alliance.

The festival's executive director David Dimit is very excited about the range of work to be screened.

"Adding the video night was absolutely a must when one sees

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Movies

Silver Screen Summer '94 -- The Good, The Bad And The Ugly

by Chris Narloch

1994 will be remembered for a cinematic summer when the Lion roared, Arnold bored, and Tom Hanks scored (again).

THE GOOD

Speed

Definitely an "E ticket," this pedal-to-the-metal action flick should be turned into a theme park ride (or at least a video game). A butch and buff Keanu Reeves finds his niche as a heroic cop-of-few-words. There's an out of control bus, an even more out of control Dennis Hopper (as the villain), and a great role for Sandra Bullock, who almost steals the show as the gutsy substitute bus driver.

The Client

The latest John Grisham novel to reach the screen, "The Client" is a real surprise. It's a solid dramatic thriller with three powerhouse performances by Tommy Lee Jones, Brad Renfro and, especially, Susan Sarandon. She plays a lawyer hired to protect a young

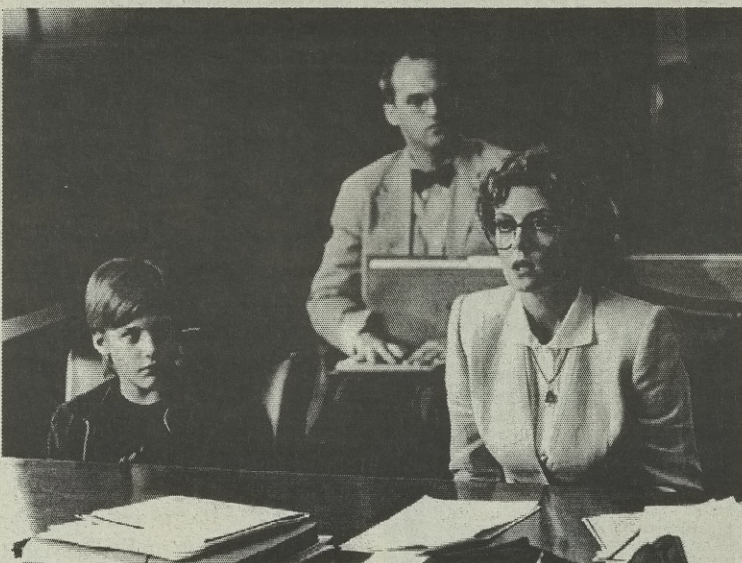
boy (Renfro) who has witnessed a suicide from the mob as well as from a slippery district attorney played by Jones. When Sarandon and Jones square off the sparks really fly, and you forgive a few holes in the plot. Great acting can do that.

The Mask

Occasionally, an actor finds a part he was born to play. In the role of a geek who finds a mask that transforms him into a singing, dancing hipster, Jim Carrey lets loose with a comic insanity not seen since Robin Williams burst on the scene.

The make-up and special effects are dazzling, the jokes non-stop and the plot, well, who cares?

Carrey is a master of mimicry, and a bizarre and brilliant physical comedian. I can't wait to see him play the Riddler in the upcoming "Batman Forever."



Susan Sarandon defends Brad Renfro in "The Client."

THE BAD

The Flintstones

Yabba-Dabba-Dud! A marketing venture, more than a movie, this live-action cartoon had a perfect cast and dozens of writers and still managed to be virtually unwatchable. I guess the jokes are meant to be prehistoric -- problem is they're not funny. Liz Taylor has a couple good bitchy moments, but I got so bored at the drive-in I started watching the movie

on the next screen -- without sound. Please, God, no sequel.

Wolf

The moviemakers couldn't decide whether they had a drama or a black comedy on their hands (silly me, I thought from the trailer it was a horror movie.) Then again, the thought of Jack Nicholson and Michelle Pfeiffer having sex is pretty horrifying. Nicholson is way too old to be playing a sexy werewolf, and Pfeiffer, as talented as she is, can't save this flop.

The Lion King

Disney's latest merchandising effort (oops! I mean movie) has neither the fairy-tale charm of "Beauty and the Beast" nor the wicked wit of "Aladdin." And the story, involving a cub who is blamed for his father's death, is Disney's most maudlin since "Dumbo." The score yields only one decent new tune, and the film's best moment ("The Lion Sleeps Tonight") is a borrowed song. Despite some great vocal characterizations, by Jeremy Irons and others, "The Lion King" lacks the Disney magic of "Jungle Book" or "Pinocchio." And, yes, it's too intense for small children (which is, after all, the intended audience.)

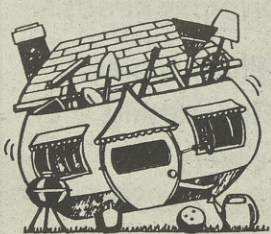
THE UGLY

My first annual "Razzberry Award" goes to the Century Theatres at Arden and Ethan Way which have expanded to include a total of fourteen screens. That's eight more screens than before in order to show the same (mostly bad) summer movies on two or three screens simultaneously.

I had to laugh when I showed up for the "Grand Opening" on Memorial Day weekend -- after receiving a postcard announcing the newly refurbished complex -- only to find my movie was showing in the part of the theater that has not been "furnished" in quite some time. Not only was my theater not renovated, it was in a state of disrepair that made me wonder if the board of health should be

continued on page 30

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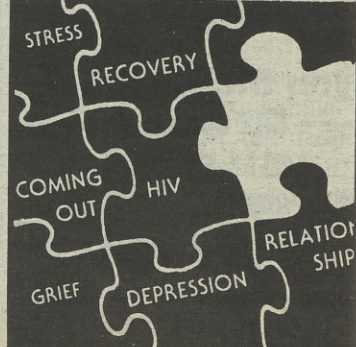
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Music

Girls! Girls! Girls! and Other Sweet Summer Sounds

by Bill Peterson

50 words or less:



HARRY CONNICK JR.: She Stepping out on a limb, Connick goes for a more contemporary pop sound. Why there's even some art-rock drama tossed in for effect! Check it out for the New Orleans fun on several tunes and the lazy "Between Us."

BRILLIANT: The Global Dance Music Experience Three volumes (purchased separately, no batteries required) with enough BPM to keep your next fete rolling into the wee hours, these discs (with helpful liner notes) feature a variety of acts -- surprisingly, the musical variety is less pronounced, with the remixes sounding by the book don't miss Tina Turner's 12" version of "Disco Inferno" or the new remix of Diana Ross' "Upside Down".

GEORGE & IRA GERSHWIN: A Musical Celebration This 2 disc set, recorded live with stars from the stage and small screen runs through the standards- "I've Got A Crush On You" to "How long Has This Been Going On" with a wink & a smile. To top it all off, its proceeds benefit AIDS Project L.A.

SOUNDTRACK: The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert Shake your groove thing! Yeah, this Aussie drag queen flick features Patti Page bein' saucy, several disco classics and other 70's treats ("Billy Don't Be A Hero") along with some current divas. Judging by this, the movie should be tons o' fun!

As summer comes to a close, the bins are filling up with new discs by several of pop's premier ladies of song, but this month's real treasure is a sassy, confident debut by Tennessee's Joi.

JOI: The Pendulum Vibe If you think Nashville is all stetsons and two-steppin', well, you haven't met Joi! With an opening credo: "We will not bow down to racism... injustice... exploitation... I'm gonna stand," this 22 year-old Tennessee native has concocted a self-confident melange ranging from the loping hip-hop beat on "Sunshine & Rain" to gospel, jazz and classic soul influences that are woven through each song. Joi hits the bullseye several times -with the sexy, sapphic "Narcissa Cutie Pie," the gospel-tinged "If We Weren't Who We Were" and the smooth "I Don't Mind." With her talent and confident pose, expect to hear much more from Joi in the future.

STEVIE NICKS: Street Angel When the grand dame of gauzy pop opens her first new album in five years with an in-

spired coupling like: "I saw him the other day/I saw him again...yesterday/I wonder if I'll ever see him again," things don't look hopeful for this comeback. Luckily, things do improve quite a bit as you get into the 13 songs on Street Angel. Heralded as a return to the earthly plane most of us tread, Nicks still retains some of her mystical stylings, (which are the essence of her allure) with plenty of references to rain, things that can only be seen at night, and dreams.

SOPHIE B. HAWKINS: Whaler Teaming up with producer Stephen Lipson (Annie Lennox' Diva), Hawkins second album shows less growth than hoped for. Hawkins' auspicious debut featured the hit "Damn I Wish I Was Your Lover," and "Whaler" does contain a couple of worthy follow-ups ("Don't Tell Me No" and the first single "Right Beside You"), but

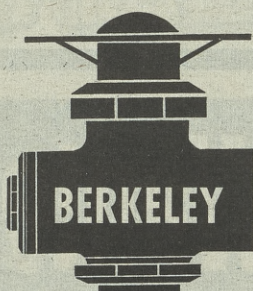


Britain's Julia Fordham assumes the position for falling forward.

finds Hawkins' in a holding pattern of mid-tempo moody ruminations on PC living & loving.

JULIA FORDHAM: Falling Forward After the gorgeous

lead track "I Can't Help Myself," Fordham's fourth album falls too quickly, and backward seems a more accurate description. *continued on page 30*



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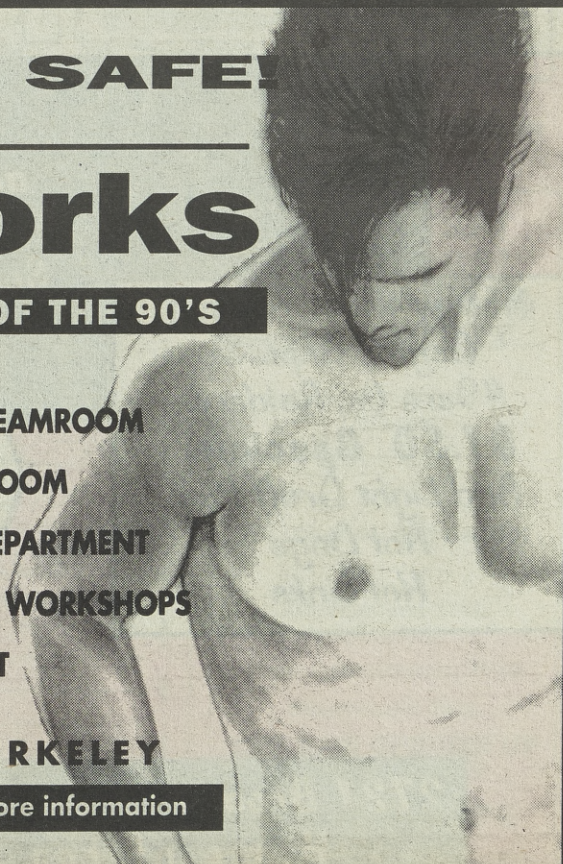
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Rumor Has It

by Stephanie Carlisle

Attention! I'm only going to say this once...Stephanie doesn't just cover the Court anymore. Now, she's covering all the local gossip (as long as its true) in this oversized Cowtown...be very, very afraid!

* Ride the bus to Hell: Ernie Brown and the gang at the Mercantile Saloon are planning a too-too fun trip to Reno scheduled for August 13.

* **Hamburger Mary's** is opening soon at the old Sam's Hof-Brau at Seventeenth and J Streets. With Richard Boriolo involved, one wonders how he can do this and the Rainbow Festival too!

* Hey, sports fans: Monday nights are going to be hopping this fall with **Jammin' Jo's** (formerly the **Silver Spur/Cheyenne's/Shakers**, ad nauseam...) hosting a raffle of two seats in reclining lounge chairs for Monday Night Football broadcasts. Also, there is talk

of a rotating Monday night potluck for hard-core fans. Call Stan at 736-0923 for details...

* Happy 32nd birthday to J.P. and Chuck, both of CGNIE.

* Filmmakers Esther Ritter and Pat Barnes started filming "Daydreamer" this month. The video short will feature Jackie Nunes and other Sacramento women in an erotic look at the value of fantasy. "Daydreamer" will accompany two other short videos in a lesbian festival in early 1995.

* Kudos to that other paper, **The Sacramento News & Review** for standing up for the first amendment and defending their right to print gay/lesbian 'date ads'. The Christian Right in this county are trying to force them to censor us.

* Speaking of other papers... Eric Mathias is no longer at **Mom Guess What**. Been there, done that!

* Ladies: Be sure to pick up a copy of **Girlfriends** magazine

at **Moment of Touch**--a little competition for **On Our Backs**.

* A new gay and lesbian dating service has started in Sacramento, run by **Josefina Hermans**...some very nice people, those that aren't into the bar scene are looking for others to spend their lives with...are we talking commitment?--call (916) 444-9236.

* For those looking to get out of town (who isn't?), a **Raging Waters Gay Day** in San Jose is planned for September 18. Featured will be a queer Beach Olympics. It's the third annual Plunge, sponsored by Three Snaps Up...why don't we hold one of these gigs at Cal Expo's Water World?

* Also away: **Chico's** gay/lesbian community is throwing its annual **Freedom Fest**, September 16 - 18..

* **Cafe Lambda** (Fridays at the Center) is improving its entertainment with new talent performing and new desserts for those who need a bar alter-



Organizers of the Valley Bear Contest celebrate with the winner and runners-up by displaying the title belt.

native.

* My friends in the Court would kill (or claw) me if I don't mention that voting for **Duke and Duchess** will take place at the Lambda Center on August 13th. **The Ducal Ball** will be held the following Saturday at the Sierra Inn. An extravaganza of glitter and glamor is assured.

* The Valley Bears are hosting a "Cowboy Night" at the **Wreck Room** on August 19, from 9 to ??? p.m. All are invited to come as your fantasy.

Last month the Valley Bears hosted the **Mr. Valley Bear Contest** at the new **Joseph's Town and Country** bar at the Sierra Inn and local "bear" **Duane** won the title. The event was held in conjunction with the **Sacramento Leather**

Association's Leatherfest Weekend. Prior to the Valley Bear competition, the SLA held the **Dyke Daddy** contest. **Daddy T.** took the sash home to San Diego and promises to move here soon... Daddy come back!

* **Colorscope**, a culturally diverse lesbian/gay/bisexual collective dedicated to multicultural events in Sacramento, is hosting "**Caribbean Sunset**", a fundraising benefit with regional food, music and raffle prizes. It happens August 27th, between 5 and 9 p.m. \$6 admission -- call 863-5879 for information.

*To my friends sweating over plans for the **Third Annual Sacramento Gay and Lesbian International Film Festival**: Kisses on your opening!

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Dykes To Watch Out For

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AS IT IS.

IT WOULD TAKE FIVE
MINUTES! YOU COULD
BRING RAFAEL UP TO
THE PODIUM WITH YOU!
IT'LL BE **PERFECT!**

COME ON! THE DOMESTIC
PARTNERS REGISTRY IS A
CRITICAL STEP TOWARDS
GETTING OUR RELATION-
SHIPS RECOGNIZED!

LOOK, I THINK IT'S GREAT
YOU'RE DOING THIS, BUT GETTING
THE GOVERNMENT INVOLVED
IN MY PERSONAL LIFE IS
NOT HIGH ON MY LIST OF
PRIORITIES RIGHT NOW.

DID I TELL YOU I MIGHT
BE GOING UP AGAINST THE
UNION CARBUNCLE CHEM-
ICAL CORPORATION? WE
FOUND A L.U.S.T. AT THEIR
SOUTH END PLANT, AND I
THINK IT'S CONNECTED TO
THE HIGH CANCER RATE
OVER THERE.

LEAKY UNDER-
GROUND STORAGE
TANK. IT'S CON-
TAMINATING THE
GROUND WATER.

HEY, IF YOU'RE
SO WORRIED
ABOUT CONTAM-
INATION, QUIT
POKING MY TOFU
WITH THAT
CHICKEN FORK.

A LUST?

I **KNOW** HER JOB'S IMPORTANT, BUT
I'M NOT SURE I CAN GO ON LIKE
THIS! SHE'S HARDLY EVER HOME! I
MIGHT AS WELL BE A SINGLE PARENT!

HUH. JUST BE GLAD
YOU'RE NOT MARRIED
TO MS. **PUBLIC SER-**
VANT OVER THERE.

WHAT'S
GOING ON?
I THOUGHT YOU
TWO WERE SO
HAPPY!

I DUNNO. FOR A LONG TIME I
FELT REALLY ATTRACTED
TO HOW DRIVEN AND HIGH-
POWERED SHE IS. I MEAN,
SHE'S THE EXACT OPPOSITE
OF ME!

RRRM
RRRM

BUT POLITICS IS HER **LIFE**. THE
CITY COUNCIL, COMMUNITY PRO-
JECTS, BOARD MEETINGS, FUND-
RAISING... I FEEL LIKE I'M
JUST ANOTHER COMMITMENT
SHE HAS TO FIND TIME FOR.

WOW. SHE
JUST TOLD US YOU
WERE TALKING
ABOUT **LIVING**
TOGETHER.

I KNOW. SHE'S SO EXCITED
ABOUT THIS DOMESTIC PARTNER-
SHIP BILL. I HAVEN'T HAD THE
HEART TO TELL HER I DON'T WANT
TO BE HER DAMN DOMESTIC
PARTNER.

**COME
AND
GET
IT!**

THERE'S MY
TIGER BOY!
ARE YOU READY
FOR YOUR
CHICKEN?

CLARICE, HE HAVEN'T
EATEN CHICKEN FOR WEEKS
NOW. THE ONLY THING
HE'LL TOUCH IS BEETS
WITH PEANUT BUTTER.

HARRIET, I HAVE TO
LEAVE IN
TWENTY
MINUTES,
OKAY?

DON'T ASK ME.
I DIDN'T SPEND
ALL DAY BAR-
BECUING THIS
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TOGETHER..

I LOVE BEING WITH YOU, ED...

I WANT YOU, ED..

PHIL DON'T!

SOMEHOW, I HAVE TO CURB
HIS TENDENCY TO GET ROMANTIC
OUTDOORS..

Woops.

Pow

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Dixon Stalward

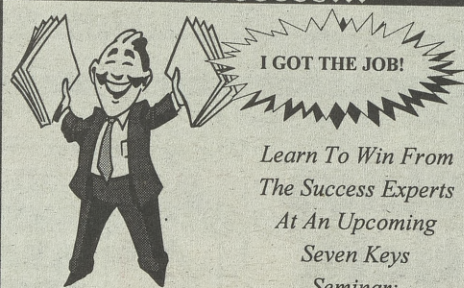
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HORIZONS

SHOCKING

continued from page 19

community and ask them, tell us about your new book and also tell us, if you were just looking at this vast number of books out there, which are the ones that you would recommend as essential books in our culture for men and women to read. Every month as we inter-

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"I think there's a great opportunity for us to be the shopping channel and the entertainment channel for gay men and lesbians in their homes."

-- Rick Hutcheson

view a new filmmaker or writer, we will ask him or her for their suggestions on classic titles." Alan Hollinghurst has been lined up for an interview for the September release of the catalog and an unnamed film maker is being sought out next.

Presently, some of the items included in the newest catalog are personal and household accessories ranging from clothing and active wear to jewelry and CDs, cosmetics, posters and cards, travel guides, art, books

like *The Corporate Closet*, and both *Angels in America: Millennium* and *Perestroika*, and videos like *Paris is Burning*, *Desert Hearts*, *Salmonberries*, and the three-video set of Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City*.

"The direction I'm taking is, we've got a lot more dance music, we've got more art, we've got more video, which are my personal interests . . . but I'm sure there are other people who say, gee, I wish I could find that somewhere. We would love to get people's ideas on products that they would like to see and haven't seen yet in the catalog," Hutcheson added enthusiastically.

Shocking Gray's toll-free number for a free catalog or to order merchandise is (800) 778-4729.

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Laura Bowly Headlines Lambda's Friday Cafe

by Michael R. Gorman

Ever since Franklin Anderson and Douglas Wolfe took over the Friday night cafe at the Lambda Community Center, they have been working to make it an entertaining alternative night spot for gays, lesbians, and bisexuals and their friends who want to spend an evening with good company but without alcohol.

The backbone of that effort has been their schedule of poets, musicians and actors to perform for those who wander in. If this summer's fare is any indication, the Sacramento community has some talented and entertaining acts.

One musician who has made this summer's Lambda Cafe lineup a winner is singer/songwriter, Laura Bowly. She appeared at the cafe on July 22 and left the crowd enthralled. She will return on August 19. Don't miss her.

Bowly, a lively redheaded

"I was there when..."

Bowly's songs, accompanied by her acoustic guitar, range from lighthearted country tunes to lilting ballads of lost love to somber internal journeys to folk/pop love songs. They are well complemented by her versatile voice that can one moment lull the listener into quiet calm and the next twist the heart with the strain of intense emotion. From high vibrating trill to seductive growl, her vocal technique tells the story as much as her tightly woven poetic lyrics do.



Laura Bowly performs at the Lambda Center's Friday night cafe.

songstress with a killer smile and a personality that radiates, hails from Sonora and has performed at a variety of women's music festivals and other venues. She is not well known in Sacramento as yet, but those who come to the Center and witness the inevitable change in that situation will no doubt have many opportunities to say,

Bowly's first CD, "Stones and Flowers," will be available for purchase the night of her cafe appearance. It is a collection of ten of her original songs. *Valley Music News* said of it, "We were drawn right away into the world of Laura's compelling range of music... everyone who listens to this talented lady will find songs to relate to." Her second

CD for Small D.O.G. Records is due out this fall.

Opening for Bowly will be Sacramento's own star-gazing musician, Douglas Wolfe. Wolfe has a classic folk singer voice that makes a listener want to sit by the railroad tracks and ponder the meaning of it all. He too is a songwriter, and one of considerable talent.

Thanks to the continuing efforts of Anderson and Wolfe (yes, the conjunction here is not just literary), the Lambda Cafe now offers desserts and coffees to rival the best coffee joints in the city. And there's punch for the non-caffeine crowd.

Friendly hosts, good food, steaming coffee, scintillating conversation and fabulous en-

tertainment destined for greatness (no cover charge): what could rival that for a naturally intoxicating way to spend Friday evening? (Okay, MAYBE a private swim party with Greg Louganis, but not much else.) Don't miss the fun. August 19. 20th and L. At the place that looks like home.



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CLOSET

continued from page 11

papal stands such as women's rights and choice. He still, however, cherishes much of his Jesuit experience and considers himself a very spiritual person.

In contrast, Paulette Jacobson never hid from her own sexuality. "I've always been comfortable with sexuality. I helped start the Pleasure Parties out of Marin that sold sex toys. I thought it was good for women to develop a positive

sense of their own sexuality. Now I teach about sexuality. My whole life has been about sexuality in one way or another."

But she remembers the pre-Stonewall years in Sacramento when caution was the operative word and lesbians had limited chances to meet each other. "Basically the bars and softball." She remembers having to park six blocks away from the bar and hope nobody saw her entering. Her character, Katie, comes out a relatively young age and with a solid sense of

self.

Of their differences, Paulette said, "It's funny sometimes how different we are. He's tall and dark. I'm short and blonde. He's calm and softspoken. I'm . . . not. He adds a spiritual dimension. There are so many magical things that happen when we go out and speak together."

Tony added, "One thing we want our gay and lesbian readers to see is that we wrote the book together. We want people to see that gay men and lesbians don't have to be separate."

MUSIC

continued from page 25

With each successive album, Fordham's "chanteuse with soul" style has become more homogenized which leaves Falling Forward with plenty of smooth yet plain songs for people who like their music "nice".

HORSE: God's Home Movie
This Scottish trio, led by the curiously named Horse, treads the same ground as latter-day Cher—predictable shiny rock arrangements with sing-along choruses that build into four minute epics, yet turn over no new

stones. Horse' voice is interesting in itself, resembling a hybrid of Cher and k.d. lang, that, when agitated (like on the opening "Celebrate") sounds like she's singing behind a fan on high speed. When the music is subdued, Horse's vocal shines, as on the title track and the fond reminiscence of "Natural Law"—"I found my freedom/Loving an angel in eden/I found out for myself/Love is the natural law." Unfortunately, these spine-tingling moments are far outweighed by the run of the mill tunes that pad out the rest of the album.

MOVIES

continued from page 24

contacted. (Items of an unknown nature were falling from the ceiling, and I had to avoid chairs covered with debris.)

In a desire to give the place a second chance, I returned a few weeks later to see another movie only to find a host of rug-rats roasting in their seats as "The Lion King" roared without the

benefit of air-conditioning.

Since I am chronically unable to quit while I'm ahead, I made a third trek to Century recently, and was joined by a family of real-live mice under my seat who, alas, seemed to be enjoying the movie more than me. This is the same theater that mangled the projection of "Shindler's List" last year. The place needs to get it together.

Obituaries

Verne L. Oliver

Verne L. Oliver, a 26-year resident of Sacramento died June 25, at his home in Curtis Park. Verne was born in Stockton, CA January 6, 1944. He attended Sonora Union High School graduating in 1961. Verne served for four years in the U.S. Navy working in intelligence. His time in the military afforded him opportunities to be stationed and travel in Europe. After he returned from the Navy, Verne moved to Sacramento to attend Sacramento State College. He graduated in 1970 with a degree in 1973. He passed the California State Bar the same year, on his first attempt. He was a Principal Deputy for the California Legislative Bureau for 20 years. Verne met Leonard L. Tudor in Sacramento 26 years ago as friends, then companions. With many good times and great memories of our times together!

Verne's cremated remains were committed to the sea July 7th at 11:00 off the Marin Headlands.


Patrick O. Pettit

Patrick Pettit died from complications related to AIDS on August 1, 1994. No one fought as valiantly to hold on to life, but his long struggle has now ended and brought him peace. His passing brought profound sorrow to his many friends and acquaintances in Sacramento. No person or experience will ever replace the happy days he shared with so many of them. His joy and love of life were contagious. Patrick was one person you could always turn to in time of trouble, however slight. He was a good listener, warm and wise and understanding. Patrick is survived by his mother, Leora and his brother, Danny. Though long estranged from his natural family, he recently made peace with them all. He is also survived by many other relatives throughout the country, as well as countless friends in Sacramento including Troy Brannan, Mark Chadwell and Patrick Stevens. At his own request there was no memorial service and arrangements were made by the Neptune Society of Northern California. Remembrances may be made in Patrick's name to the Sacramento AIDS Foundation. Good night, Sweet Prince.

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Zodiacscope

It's nice that, although summer is winding down, there is still quite a bit of sun-baked energy left to go around. Planetarily, we have the usual toe dances of fast-paced Mercury and domineering Mars.

Just pace yourself this month - there will be several difficult aspects that may send you off course or frustrate you. Keep your eyes open and don't let the planets push you around.

ARIES (March 21 - April 20)
What kind of advantage can you gain this month in the area of love, sex and commitment? I suppose it depends upon what you intend to do to make things happen. By mid-month, you may feel like your thoughts are not based in reality or are leading you down the primrose path. You may have to choose between your privacy and personal desires.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21)
The job keeps you on your toes, but your heart lies elsewhere. Taureans are very adept, though, at doing the old balancing act and you will triumph at work as you happily master any relationship needs. You feel you are able to relate to others on a deeply personal level, but be careful of voicing your opinion before you have thought things out.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Fun may cost much more than anticipated. I suggest you keep a watchful eye on finances, especially when they involve risks like gambling. On the bright side, you will certainly enjoy yourself this month, lavishly or otherwise. By the end of September, the job will beckon, but this is all for the best. There

are good things in store for you there.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
You are spurred to action and will feel the warm glow of the spotlight in center stage. Personal magnetism soars! This is what you have been striving for - the love of many - but remember that it comes at the expense of your privacy and sense of security. Are you ready to compromise your rugged crab shell for an accolade or two?

LEO (July 24 - August 23)
It seems as if your intuition is a tad overactive this month. Events may take a different spin or two if you decide to react to that little voice and scream out your ideas to all and sundry. Let's take it one step at a time, shall we? Put your energies to better use by doing something good for the community. Volunteer to do something meaningful.

VIRGO (August 24 - Sept. 23)
Friends are there when they need you and you may find yourself expending extra energy on their behalf. This is not a bad thing unless you find yourself more on the giving end and less and less on the receiving end. Virgos are very servicing and self-sacrificing, but don't be a sap to a sappy story and keep a watchful eye on finances.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - October 23)
Do you feel like you are working very hard, but not making very much progress in your as-

cent up the corporate ladder? Keep plugging away and try not to become discouraged. Mid-month may seem especially taxing, but the bottleneck will begin to abate by the end of September. Forge ahead and damn the sharks! Investments bear fruit.

SCORPIO (October 24 - Nov. 22)
There are many alluring things out there in the greater world. You are quite prepared to taste them all! It is an excellent time to take a well deserved vacation, but expect a snag or two from some unexpected sources before you depart. Don't worry, a light will shine on those rough edges and you can dispatch any problem (or potential problem) before it gets too unruly.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 2-Dec. 22)
Sex could get in the way of a perfectly delightful friendship. It's your choice to allow the rage of hormones to take the reins and lead you astray. Maybe in the heat of the moment, you will get a glimmer of personal insight and be able to change a direction in your life that no longer provides you with fulfillment or satisfaction. One intense path leads to another...

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
Partners and their needs may come into direct conflict with professional career concerns. You just won't be able to please both constituencies, so decide now who comes first. Capricorns are so outer-directed that the choice may be sadly easy - career and status

rule! My advice is that life is one big balancing act so try not to sell personal relationships short; they may not always be there for you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
The job becomes so mundane and labor intensive that it may deprive you from more universal projects. Don't allow that to happen - Aquarians need their global dreams and you need to be able to follow the sun. Maybe it's just a question of reprioritizing or delegating tasks to others. Conserve your energy and redirect it to what pleases you.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - March 20)
The party hound is ready and raring to go but don't allow your passions to rule you. It is all well and good to sample those

sexy morsels here and there but it could get out of hand. Pisces are known to go overboard in their desires. Try to maintain a certain level of moderation for your own sake. Psychological breakthroughs are possible now.

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POP QUIZ - Multiple Choice:

- a) ♀ + ♀ = ☺ d) ♀ + ♀ = ☹
b) ♀ + ♀ = ?? e) ♀ + ♀ = !!!
c) ♀ + ♀ = ♥ f) ♀ + ♂ = ??
g) all of the above

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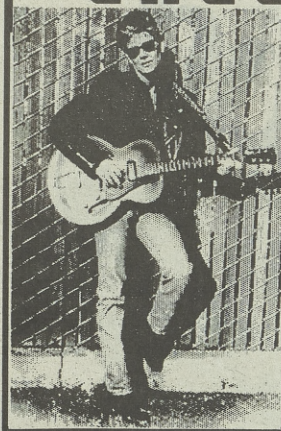
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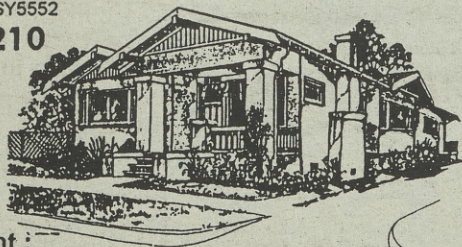
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Auburn **LOOKING TO MEET 18-30** to get together and have a good time-Greg #34938

Sacramento **HALF AND HALF:** Jeff (my other half) and I are looking for others to get together and have a good time- #34981

Sacramento **TOOL TIME:** Richard would like to meet bi or gay couple - gdlk musc tan submissive like to be the tool to make your love and excitement stronger. #35019

Sacramento **S.S. FRIENDSHIP:** Steve new to town lets do it on the delta into boating-cabin cruiser cruising for friends and deckhands. 18-25 #42654

Folsom **JOE** 32 5'11 165 gt shape music biking like to meet new guys 18-40 #42656

Sacramento **LOOKING FOR A TIGHT END:** Jason - 20 258 football player build enjoy theatre movies camping #42672

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Sacramento **KEVIN** 30 6'1 220 blnd/blu athl/masc/musc workout 4-5 x a wk live in old victorian home. recently here from Texas - like 2 meet people locally not really into gay scene like 2 meet outdoors activities camping-masc only #42755

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Sacramento **AU NATURE!** Joe red/blu 5'109 170 pref subm, nudist, adventurous. #42928

Sacramento **STEVE** 30 successful and open-looking to meet a nice young man #43011

408 Area Code **EDWIN** mature educ prof seeks companionship with other self aware sensitive men goal oriented any age. #42813

408 Area Code **SHRIMP COCKTAIL:** Sexy body builder 6'2 200 27 looking for men with big feet love to worship feet. #43009

Campbell **AS LONG AS WE'RE PROPERLY INTRODUCED:** Looking for hisp 18-30 variety of interests meet for social reasons perhaps more #42634

Fresno **SHY BEAR:** Handsome and hairy WM 40 6' 170 hairy, shy, romantic-seeking buddy 18-30 #34839

Gilroy **PARLEZ-VOUS FRANCAIS:** Eddie 160 blu/brn mostly into French-looking for other men 18-24 who like to speak it to me. #35000

Modesto **A MAN, A WOMAN AND A BEAR?** Like hairy submissive men 18-35 im 39 Richard brn/blue beard hairy looking 4 friendship novice looking preops, he/shes, hermaphrodite welcome size weight unimp WM pref. #42886

Sonoma **KEVIN** in the gold country I'm gdlkg 32 live on 2 acres w/a little cabin, lkg 4 a guy into building a life, rel poss reloc up here or living p/t in the city or valley-into baseball fishing camping hiking water & snow skiing & hot love. #42602

Sacramento **THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS:** 38 yr. old male, married, never been with a guy and have decided its time to give it a try. Are you the one? #33253

Sacramento **QUENCHING THE FIRE:** Firefighter, outgoing, GBM, 25, into the outdoors, looking for good times with guys in the area. #33285

Sacramento **GILETTE MAN:** White male, TV, looking for men who like men who dress up-. I am shaved smooth. #33364

Sacramento **BEHIND IT ALL:** 40's, 6'3", TP, looking for a sub, BTM under 30, who might be interested in a long term relationship. #33591

Sacramento **PUMP IT UP:** 24 yr. old, 5'8", Blk/Brn like meeting people and having a good time, work out. Leave me a message. #33704

Sacramento **BUMPER CROP:** 5'11", 165 lbs, Brn/Blu, hairy, into the outdoors and gardening, versatile, looking for guys in the area. #33715

Sacramento **VARIETY IS THE SPICE:** 37 yr. old, 6', Brn/Hzl looking for men in the area. I have a variety of interests. You are 38-48 yrs. old. #33756

Sacramento **GREAT OUTDOORS:** 42 yr. old GWM, 5'9", 170, stach, BTM into camping and hiking, and more. Give me a call. #34153

Hanford **HEAVY LOAD:** Overweight 27 yr old, 5'9", seeks another teddy bear type. Call for home number. #33232

707 Area Code **SONOMA COUNTY:** I am seeking someone 20s-30s who is educated and professional, sincere and in shape. Call me at home. #33104

CA **SNICKERS:** 25 yr. old black male seeks other black males of similar age for great summer fun. #33276

San Anselmo **TO THE MAX:** Max, dom, looking for sub guys who will work in my garden and be my roommate. You are in need of some discipline. #33431

Sonoma **WHITE MALE,** 45, 5'9", Bln/Hzl,

stach into the outdoors, music looking for very thin men 25-35 yrs.. old for a long term relationship. #33735

GOOD OL' BOY: 23 yrs old 6'1" 190 lbs. horseback riding country music, line dancing riding around in my beat up p/u truck, hunting and fishing. looking for men with similar interests, someone to hang out with or more! #34245

CA **COOK UP A STORM?:** E. Indian Male from Fiji wants to meet other bi males. I want to know more. I love cooking and partying and doing things together. #34320

CA **THE BEAR NECESSITIES:** Big daddy bear looking for boy - me 38 blnd blu and beard hairy chest and arms 5'11 285 able to provide home and good times and lots o'lovin you be smaller chunky ok loyal affectionate and horny and built for fun. serious

CA **BATTLE OF THE BULGES:** Gary, 33, smooth, Brn/Brn, 6', well endowed, looking for other well endowed guys for hot summer night fun. #32671

Stockton **LEG MEN:** 28 yr. old, Brn/Brn, nice legs interested in meeting someone in the area. #29329

CA **F-U-N:** 23 yr. old white male looking for sincere guys in the area for fun times. #32336

CA **JUST FOR LAUGHS:** 5'6", looking for someone who has a fetish, especially tickling. If you want to talk about it or actually try it, call me. #32565

Sacramento **FRIENDS IN HIGH PLACES:** 30 yr. old, 6', attractive, looking for a TP for an ongoing friendship. #25791

Chico **TIGHT QUARTERS:** 21 yr. old, Brn/Brn, 5'10", looking for friends for fun and all that other stuff. #27227

Sacramento **JUICE BOMB:** 23 yr. old, 6'3", clean shaven, versatile, seeks people in the area to hook up with. #28941

Chico **THE GREAT-OUT-OF-DRAWERS:** Jamie, 25, looking to meet other guys. I am into the outdoors. #30388

Sacramento **DOUBLE DUTY:** 6' GM, long Brn hair, BTM, love everything, looking for a couple of guys for couple action. #30804

Wildwood **HONEY, IS THE LENS COVER OFF?:** 6', bi male, looking for bi males to get together so my wife can watch. #32262

Chico **EASY LIKE SUNDAY MORNING:** GWM, 25, looking for somebody to hang out with and to enjoy life with. I'll try anything. #30388

CA **SOMETHING THAT WILL STICK:** Dana, looking for a permanent relationship. I am 34, Bln/Blu, not into the bar scene. #32476

Sacramento **COME SIT ON MY KNEE:** 50 yr. old, into pleasing younger, blessed men. Don't knock it, it might be interesting. #26396

Sacramento **HERE IT IS:** 42 yr. old GWM, stach, goatee, 5'9", Bln/Blu, into the outdoors, looking for a guy who is very open minded, 30-45 yrs. old. #32910

Sacramento **INTEREST INTENSIVE:** GWM, 34, 5'2", Brn/Brn, well blessed, fit, attractive, seeks men to share in my many interests. #31152

Davis **FAIR OAKS FROLIC:** 28 yr. old, looking for a guy in Fair Oaks but open to everyone else. I have a wide range of interests. #31540

Sacramento **NO NO ZONE EROGINATOR:** 24 yr. old, good looking, good shape looking for other masc guys who like to work out and do other things... #31644

Sacramento **GAME ON, GAME OFF:** 37 yr. old Latin male very lovable looking for guys 30's or older. You are honest and do not play head games. #12349

Sacramento **LET'S SEE WHAT COMES UP:** GW couple looking for other couples 18-40 yrs. old for fun times. #20828

Sacramento **DOUBLE TROUBLE:** Couple looking for singles or doubles for good clean fun. #20044

Sacramento **ATTN. SHOPPERS:** 34 yr. old interested in outdoor activities and shopping and sign language. Looking for compassionate GAM for friendship and more. #29709

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Sacramento **TONED ON:** 19 yr. old, 5'8" GHM, very toned looking for guys 18-25 yrs. old white or Hispanic who are also toned. #29850

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Sacramento **STUD BOLT:** 44 yr. old red head 6'3", looking for GWM's 18-30 yr. old masc and well endowed who are interested in moving into an apartment with a vietnam vet. #30143

Sacramento **TOP ME OFF:** BTM, 29, GWM looking for TP who is a little bit older and hairy. #30226

Sacramento **A LOOKER:** 46 yr. old male, white, looking for someone younger 22-28 yrs. old who is looking for a LTR #30285

Sacramento **CAPITOL IDEA:** 28 yr. old, 6'2", smooth bi male looking to get together with other males or couples of similar age. #30473

Sacramento **ON YOUR OWN TWO FEET:** 6'3", 29 yr. old GM looking for a decent person who is friendly and can take care of themselves. #30605

Auburn **SPIN ON THIS:** Seeking TV's and TS's in the Auburn and Sacramento area. I am 5'10" and very sexy. #30649

Sacramento **CARROT TOP:** GWM, 42, red hair, 5'9", BTM seeks someone very uninhibited. Give me a ring. #30789

Sacramento **BEFORE YOU CALL 911:** Call me. Paramedic new to the area interested in water skiing and snow skiing looking for a young man to share in these interests. #30849

Stockton **MEET YOU ON THE MAT:** 28 yr. old GWM, 5'11" in good shape, into lots of interesting things including wrestling. #30820



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